







The New Fifth Street Bridge.
It spans Chester River and is a Modern Piece of Architecture
in Concrete

The Dawn of a New Era

What Makes Chester

Chester and Vicinity

What Chester Makes

Full of Opportunities

Chester
Pennsylvania
1914

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PREFACE



THE purpose of this book is to present Chester in its true light at home and abroad. Chester, because of its favorable location, great industries, even climate, natural facilities and substantial advancement, affords most excellent opportunities for trade expansion and desirable habitation. The advantages of Chester are set forth in order that people at a distance may be attracted to this city, and that those here may become more fully awakened to the value of their home and the blessings they enjoy.

If this publication will be the means of increasing the prosperity and happiness of the residents of Chester, and the city's population and greatness be further advanced by the introduction of more people and more industries, then the efforts of the publisher shall not have been in vain.

HY. V. SMITH.

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DEDICATION

This volume is respectfully dedicated to the general public, and the sincere thanks of the publisher are hereby extended to all individuals, firms and corporations who contributed support or in any way aided him in the work.

INTRODUCTION



OME cities are rapid in growth, made possible by natural resources, such as gold, silver, coal, iron and oil, which products have spread fame and fortune throughout the world. Other cities have been slow in development and yet have acquired a standing that insures peace, progress and prosperity for the residents. Just what constitutes the basis of happiness in the human family is not universally agreed upon. Contentment of mind contributes more to happiness than does money. The greatest men are not men of wealth. Men who have left their deeds and sentiments riveted in the hearts of succeeding generations were rich in character and wise in judgment.

A city is just what its citizens make it. If a spirit of selfishness, jealousy, and envy permeates the very atmosphere of a community, then may we expect little advancement. On the other hand, a community that is progressive; where its people are filled with civic pride; where the faces of the inhabitants radiate sunshine; where the handshake sends the blood tingling through the veins; where there is a "live and let live" compact, in which old and young have joined, there will you find the greatest success, the greatest contentment, the greatest happiness.

Every municipality should be conducted as one big family, and every member of the family be entitled to share benefits in accordance with his or her helpfulness and value to the community. The social, political and industrial forces should never clash. Competition, aggressiveness or "live wire" methods in social, political or industrial circles are not intended to prove detrimental or hurtful to the individual or the community. To the contrary, they denote a healthy condition, which is inspiring and productive of great good.

No city has a greater reason for being satisfied with what God has given it than Chester. Its natural facilities are unsurpassed by any other place. Then, too, as the oldest town in Pennsylvania, Chester can justly lay claim to important incidents in history, the early introduction of manufacture, and in doing its part toward the making and preservation of the Nation. Step by step has this settlement advanced from an agricultural hamlet to a city famous as an industrial center. No city holds out more and better inducements to the captain of industry, the merchant, or the wage earner, than does Chester.

Let the following pages tell the story in illustrations and in words.



HISTORICAL BRIEFS

By HENRY GRAHAM ASHMEAD

[Note by the Editor.—Henry Graham Ashmead is a noted historian and a recognized authority on such topics. He is a counselor of the Swedish Colonial and of the Pennsylvania Colonial Societies; a member of the American Historical Association, a member of the Royal Societies Club of London and recording secretary of the Delaware County Historical Society. Mr. Ashmead is the author of "Historical Sketches of Chester," "History of Delaware County," and numerous other works.]



HAT part of Chester comprised between the Delaware, Ridley and Chester rivers, extending northwestwardly to where is now the Crozer Theological Seminary, was originally a tobacco plantation conducted under the management of the Swedish government. In 1644 the greater part of this territory was granted by the Swedish crown to Jöran Kyn (George Keen), who had come to the province as one of the bodyguard of Governor Printz. In 1675 the first meeting for Divine service in Pennsylvania, by the Society of Friends, was held at the dwelling of Robert Wade—the famous "Essex House."

The first court that convened in Pennsylvania was at Upland (now Chester), November 14, 1676, and was administered under what was known as the "Duke of York's Law."

It was at the Upland Court, in 1678, that the first hospital for the insane, supported at the cost of the public, in the history of Pennsylvania, was established. "Jan Cornelissen" appealed to the justices that his son Erick "is bereft of his natural Sences & turned quyt madd, and yt hee being a poore man is not able to maintain him." The Court ordered that a "Little Blockhouse" should be built at Amosland—part of Ridley Township, bordering upon Darby Creek—and directed a levy to be made to defray the expenses of its construction and the maintenance of the lunatic.

On August 3, 1681, Deputy Governor William Markham, representing Penn, established the seat of the Colonial Government of Pennsylvania at Chester.

On the second Tuesday of September, 1681, the last court under the authority of the Duke of York was held here, where the official notification was made that King Charles II had issued letters patent to William Penn for the colony, then termed Pennsylvania, and directed the justices to "Readely submit and yield all due obedience to ye sd Letters Pattent."

September 13, 1681, the first court held in the province under the proprietary, William Penn, convened at Upland. Jury trials were heard, but there does not seem to be any distinction made between Grand and Petit Juries.

At the court held at Upland, November 30, 1681, Deputy Governor William Markham presided over its deliberations.

September 24 (Sunday), 1682, Lord Baltimore, in Wade's meadow—the squares between Penn, Second, and Third streets, and Chester river—took an astronomical observation to determine the latitude of the town. This was the first demonstrative step in the noted dispute between Penn and Lord Baltimore, as to the boundary line between their provinces, which was not set at rest until 1761, when the agreement for the running of the celebrated Mason and Dixon line was made. John Randolph, of Roanoke, in the debate on the admission of Missouri to the Union, made it renowned when he referred to "The Mason and Dixon's Line" as descriptive of the geographical division between the slave and free states.

October 28, 1682, William Penn reached Chester in the ship "Welcome," in the afternoon, and was entertained at the dwelling of Robert Wade, known in the history of the commonwealth as the "Essex House." This date is positively fixed

in the breviate used by the lawyers for the plaintiffs in the Chancery proceeding of William Penn's sons against Lord Baltimore, heard before Lord Chancellor Hardwick.

During the winters of 1682 and 1683 Chester was the point of destination for emigrants from Great Britain, hence frequently several ships would be lying off the town, discharging passengers and freight.

On December 4, 1682, the first assembly of the province was held at Chester, in Sandeland's "double house," which stood on the west side of Edgemont avenue, between Second and Third streets, a large building in those days as it would be even now. The session continued three days, during which the great code of laws prepared in England was adopted. Penn presided in person over its deliberations.

At the court held at Chester, June 27, 1683, William Penn, as Governor, presided over its sessions, the only time, it is said, he ever acted in a judicial capacity.

On the 27th of the eighth month (August), 1687, the first jury of women, called to serve in any court in what is now the United States, was empaneled at Chester.

The Grand Jury at the March term, 1695, presented the want of a "Bridle Road," from Marcus Hook to Chester. Prior to 1706 the King's Road was along what is now Twenty-fourth street, crossing both Chester and Ridley creeks at head of tidewater.

In November, 1699, Penn, on his second visit to his colony, had his vessel anchor off Chester, and for a second time he stopped at the Essex House, where he was the guest for the day of Lydia Wade, then a widow. The next morning Penn was rowed across the creek at what is now Second street. Some young men "fired two small sea pieces of cannon and, being ambitious to make three out of two, by firing one twice, one of them ('young men') darted in a cartridge of powder before the piece was sponged, had his left arm shot to pieces, upon which a surgeon being sent for, an amputation took place." Bevan, the young man, died the following April, and the expense of his care and funeral were defrayed by Penn.

On November 19, 1700, the plan of Chester, as prepared by James Sandelands, was submitted to Governor Penn, who the next day gave it his approval: so that the present city, from the Delaware river to Seventh street and from Edgemont avenue to Welsh street, conforms in substance to the plot then accepted.

On October 13, 1701, William Penn chartered Chester as a borough.

The Queen's Highway, Morton avenue to Fifth, to Market, to Third, was laid out in 1706. The proposed highway caused some dissatisfaction, and not a few people objected, declaring that "God and nature intended the road to cross directly over the creek, but the devil and Jasper Yeates took it where it was located."

The first trial for homicide in Chester county was heard at the Court here, April 17, 1718, when Hugh Miller and Lazarus Thomas were indicted for the murder of Jonathan Hayes, a justice of the county courts. Governor Sir William Keith was present at the trial. The men were convicted and hanged May 9, 1718, the first capital execution in the district.

August 15, 1722, William Battin, a lad of seventeen, was hanged at Chester and the body hung in chains, the first instance of the kind in the history of the province.

During the year 1724 the Courthouse, now the City Hall, was built, which stands to-day the oldest structure in the United States, continually used as a public building.

Wednesday morning, August 11, 1730, Thomas Penn, son of William, landed at Chester. The Council of Philadelphia and the members of the General Assembly, the next day, with Deputy Governor Patrick Borden, came hither, accompanied by a large number of gentlemen, "waited on the Honorable Proprietary

Historical Subjects



Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument

ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF CITIZENS OF
DELAWARE COUNTY WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES IN THE
CIVIL WAR

**Resting Place
of**

John Morton
Signer of the
Declaration
of Independence

who cast the
deciding vote
Freedom in the

for
Congress
of 1776



The Town Hall

Erected in 1724. Oldest
consecutively used Public
Building in the United States



This Stone marks the
Landing Place of
William Penn
in the year 1682



**View fronting the
City Lockup**



and paid their compliments. After dinner the Proprietary and his company, now very numerous, set out for Philadelphia." That dinner was a subject of conversation for fully a generation.

September 20, 1733, John Penn, "the American," because he was the only son of William born in this province, reached Chester, where Thomas Penn met him and a great gathering of prominent men. The town was given over to hilarity, as was done also in Philadelphia when the cortege reached that city the next night. The story of the "high old times" influenced Michael Walfare, one of the hermits of Conestogo, to go to Philadelphia, where, in his linen pilgrim garb, with his tall staff and venerable beard, he stood in the market place of that city and proclaimed the judgment of an offended Deity against that iniquitous town and those who had taken part in the orgies.

In 1746 Capt. John Shannon and a company of soldiers, recruited in New Castle, Delaware, and in Chester County, to take part in the proposed invasion of Canada, were quartered in Chester for several weeks. They saw some hard times later, for at Albany they complained that their rations of meat were nigh exhausted and they were short of "bread and rum."

On May 11, 1756, Paul Jackson, then Burgess of Chester, was appointed captain of the 3d Battalion of the Pennsylvania troops in the expedition, under Gen. John Forbes, which resulted in the reduction of Fort DuQuesne, now Pittsburgh. To his command Chester contributed her full quota of men. Paul Jackson was the first man to graduate from the University of Pennsylvania, and was recognized as a distinguished poet in Colonial times.

November 7, 1764, Benjamin Franklin, Commissioner of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts to present to George III the grievances of these colonies, came to Chester to board the London Packet. He was accompanied by a cavalcade of more than three hundred men of affairs of the colony.

In February, 1776, Wayne, "Mad Anthony," colonel of the Fourth Battalion of the Pennsylvania Line, mustered his command at Chester, and for more than three weeks made his headquarters in the courthouse and drilled his raw levies in the manual of arms.

April, 1777, John Morton died in what is now Ridley Park. He was the first of the signers of the Declaration of Independence to pass away. His grave, in St. Paul's church yard, in Chester, remained unmarked until October, 1845, when the present marble obelisk was erected by his descendants.

Sunday, August 24, 1777, the American army, 16,000 strong, encamped in and around Chester when on its way to meet General Howe, in his attempt to capture Philadelphia.

September 11, 1777, the American army, defeated that day at Brandywine, straggled into Chester and encamped east of Ridley creek. At midnight, in the Washington House, Washington wrote the only report to Congress he ever made of that battle.

November 18, 1777, Lord Cornwallis, in command of three thousand British regulars, entered the town and from this place embarked his men for the attack on the American fort at Billingsport, N. J. At that time over eighty British men-of-war and transports lay in the river off this town.

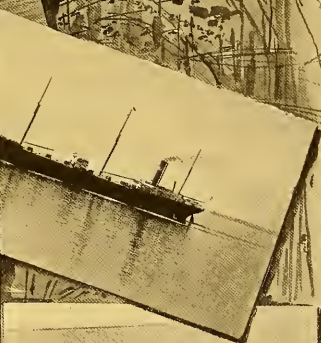
September 26, 1778, James Fitzpatrick, the noted outlaw and British spy, who figures as "Sandy Flash," in Bayard Taylor's "Story of Kenneth," S. Weir Mitchell's "Hugh Wynne," and General Jones' "Quaker Soldier," was executed at the intersection of Edgmont and Providence avenues, Chester.

In July, 1779, the American privateer, "Holker," lay off Chester, where she recruited a number of men, and here Capt. Mathew Lawver exchanged old, disabled cannons for new iron, giving four tons of the former for one ton of the latter.

September 5, 1781, Washington with his army passed through Chester on his way to Yorktown, to meet and capture Cornwallis.

In April, 1782, Capt. Joshua Barney, who had in a naval engagement in the

On the
Delaware



Delaware Bay, captured the British ship-of-war, "General Monk," brought the ship, the "Hyder Ali," and her prize to Chester, where he also brought Captain Rodgers, the British commander, ashore. A Quaker lady nursed the Englishman until he had recovered of his wounds, after which he was exchanged.

January 3, 1786, Elizabeth Wilson, convicted of murdering her twin infants, was hanged at the intersection of Providence and Edgmont avenues. Her case is one of the most memorable in the judicial annals of the commonwealth.

March 18, 1786, the Executive approved the Act changing the county seat of Chester county from Chester to West Chester, and on September 25th, of the same year, Sheriff William Gibbons was directed to remove the prisoners in the old prison to the jail at West Chester.

March 18, 1788, the old courthouse and jail at Chester were sold to William Kerlin for £415.

Monday, April 20, 1789, Washington, who was on his way to New York to be inaugurated the first president of the United States, reached Chester at 7 o'clock in the morning. Later, at the Washington House, he received the congratulations of the citizens of the town, the address on that occasion being made by Dr. William Martin, then Burgess.

September 26, 1789, Governor Mifflin approved the Act creating the county of Delaware.

November 3, 1789, William Kerlin sold the old courthouse and jail to the county of Delaware for £693, 3s 8d.

November 7, 1789, the first court for the county of Delaware convened at Chester.

January 23, 1790, Henry Hale Graham, the first president judge of Delaware county, died in Philadelphia, while attending, as a member, the Constitutional Convention of 1790. He was buried in Friends' graveyard, on Edgmont avenue.

During June, July, August and September, 1790, John Fitch ran the steamboat, "Perseverance," carrying passengers and freight between Wilmington, Chester and Philadelphia, nearly seventeen years before Fulton made his successful venture on the Hudson river with the "Clermont."

In 1793, yellow fever raged as a dire pestilence in Philadelphia. A party of boys at Chester boarded a vessel lying in the stream, on which were several men with the disease. By that means it was spread in the town, where a number of persons died.

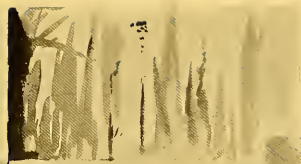
In the early summer of 1794, when Governor Mifflin called for Pennsylvania's quota of troops to suppress the "Whiskey Insurrection," William Graham, the Chief Burgess, raised a company of horsemen from the town and immediate neighborhood, of which he was captain. This cavalry served throughout the bloodless campaign.

In 1798 yellow fever appeared as a pestilence in Chester. Deborah Logan says that it was brought here by a woman who had fled from Philadelphia and died in this town. She had "exactd a promise from some of her friends that her body should be brought back to the city and buried in consecrated grounds, and that in consequence of this bad vow, the infection was first caught in the borough, where it spread with frightful rapidity and depopulated whole families and streets." One-fifth of the population died of the disease.

June 8, 1813, David Dixon Porter, eminent as a naval officer, who for his distinguished services rose to the rank of admiral, and who was an author of some repute, was born in Chester.

August 27, 1814, the bank of Delaware county organized by the election of a Board of Directors.

In August, 1814, when the British army and naval forces threatened to attack Philadelphia, Chester furnished to the volunteer army "The Mifflin Guards," commanded by Capt. Samuel Anderson, who subsequently represented this district



In the
Good Old
Summer Time



in Congress, and who was the only man from Delaware county elected speaker of the State House of Representatives.

June 6, 1818, John H. Craig was executed at Mundy's Run, where is now Morton avenue and Eleventh street, for the murder of Edward Hunter, a justice of the peace of Newtown.

On Tuesday evening, October 5, 1824, General Lafayette was received at Chester. At 11 o'clock at night, when the steamboat made fast to the wharf, the Delaware County Troop and the First City Troop of Horses from Philadelphia received him in open order. The town was brilliantly illuminated and from the pier to Fifth street, on both sides of the curb, stood a line of boys, each bearing in his hand a lighted candle of mammoth size. The Marquis was conducted to the Columbia Hotel, now the site of the Cambridge Trust Building, (where his wounds had been dressed forty-seven years before). There Dr. Samuel Anderson made an address of welcome. At the courthouse the leaders of the borough had "provided a sumptuous entertainment, to which upwards of one hundred gentlemen sat down at 1 o'clock in the morning."

Friday, December 17, 1824, James Wellington was hanged for the murder of William Bonsell, of Upper Darby, at what is now known as the "Forty Acres."

In 1826 a committee on manufacture issued a report on the number, extent and capacity of the manufactories, mills and unimproved mill sites in Delaware county, which was issued from the office of the Upland Union, Chester, the first book ever printed in Delaware county.

In 1837 Kitts & Kerlin established the first manufacturing establishment in Chester, a machine shop and foundry on the west side of Edgmont avenue above Fifth street, and therein erected the first stationary steam engine in the borough.

January 15, 1838, the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad was opened for travel and freight from Wilmington to Philadelphia.

April 29, 1841, a mock funeral was held in the borough, on the occasion of the death of President William Henry Harrison—the only instance of the kind in our city annals.

Friday, August 6, 1841, Thomas Cropper, who was convicted of the murder of Martin Hollis, of Birmingham, was executed in the jail yard at Chester, the last person to suffer capital punishment within the borough limits.

On Saturday, August 3, 1843, a cloud-burst, known as "Lamma's Flood," wrought widespread destruction in Delaware county. The water in Chester creek rose nineteen feet in the borough limits, sweeping away the railroad bridge as well as the bridge at Third street. Thirty-two of the county bridges were destroyed or seriously damaged. Nineteen persons were drowned and the pecuniary loss estimated at about \$220,000.

The movement to change the county seat from Chester to a more central location took active form on November 22, 1845, at a public meeting held at the Black Horse Tavern, in Middletown. The Legislature in 1846 enacted a law, submitting the question to a vote of the people. The election, October 12, 1847, showed a majority of 752 votes in favor of the change. The matter was taken to the Superior Court and early in 1849 that tribunal decided in favor of the removal. In the summer of 1851 the court records were transferred to Media. The last court held in Chester began May 26, 1851, and was in session four days, adjourning Friday, May 30, 1851.

April 18, 1846, Theodore Porter, born in Chester, son of Commodore David Porter, and brother of Admiral D. D. Porter, was killed in Mexico. He was a lieutenant in the 7th U. S. Infantry, and with a detachment of ten men had been ordered outside of General Taylor's encampment. They were fired upon by fifty Mexicans, Porter and three of his men being killed. The others reached camp safely. Theodore Porter was the first American officer killed in the Mexican war. His remains rest in an unmarked grave in old St. Paul's graveyard, Chester.

June 13, 1846. The Delaware County Grays, which had been recruited mostly



Boat Houses on Ridley River
and
Life on the Delaware



from the borough, were inspected by Major Peck, Captain Zeilin having, through Governor Shunk, offered the company to President Polk for active service in the Mexican war. The quota of Pennsylvania being filled, the president refused to accept the troops.

In 1847 the battlefield of the ten-hour movement was practically in Delaware county, although the western parts of Pennsylvania were active in the movement to limit the hours of labor by law from fifteen to ten hours. For five years the fight continued, until, at a public meeting held in Chester, the manufacturers of the county decided to give the new law a year's trial test, which proved eminently successful.

December, 1849, John M. Broomall purchased fifty acres, the Kerlin farm, west of the creek.

January 5, 1850, John Larkin, Jr., purchased eighty-three acres of land from John Cochrane. Both tracts were laid out in streets, squares and building lots. It was then that Chester awoke from its torpor of more than a century.

In the latter part of March, 1850, James Campbell, who had erected the "Pioneer Mills," on Fourth street, near Market, started the machinery in the factory. This was the first textile industry located in Chester.

December 9, 1850, the old Courthouse and grounds were divided into three lots and sold. The Courthouse, purchased by the borough, was bought for \$2641, the lot now occupied by the First National Bank and Chester Times brought \$1525, and the jail and lots adjoining were sold to James Campbell for \$3520.

November 8, 1851, the Pennsylvania Historical Society celebrated the one hundred and sixty-seventh anniversary of the landing of Penn at Chester. After appropriate literary exercises, the society planted several trees at Front and Penn streets, on the exact site where the old pine trees stood, to one of which the small boat that conveyed Penn from the "Welcome" was made fast when he made his first landing on Pennsylvania soil.

In the summer of 1856 William Bucknell organized a company, erected works, laid mains, and in the fall supplied illuminating gas to the inhabitants of the town.

In 1859, Thomas Reaney, the senior member of the shipbuilding firm of Reaney & Neafie, located at Chester and for a number of years conducted a successful shipbuilding business here.

During the civil war there were built for the United States Government at this plant, then known as the Pennsylvania Iron Works, the double-enders, "Wateree," "Suwanee" and "Shamokin;" the monitors "Sagamore," "Lehigh" and "Tunxis." The success of the firm brought a large number of workmen to Chester and added largely to the population and development of the town.

The civil war burst upon the nation on Saturday, April 13, 1861, when the stars and stripes were hauled down from the staff at Fort Sumter, under the fire of the Confederate forces.

Wednesday, April 17, 1861, the "Union Blues," an independent company commanded by Capt. Harry B. Edwards, was recruited in Chester, and on the Saturday following was mustered into the United States service and immediately ordered to the front; and later was encamped with the Ninth Pennsylvania Regiment of Infantry. Later, Capt. William L. Grubb raised a company in the borough, as was the Slifer Phalanx, Capt. Samuel A. Dyer. Company A of the Forty-eighth Regiment, Capt. Thomas I. Leiper; Company E of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Regiment, Capt. William C. Gray; Company B, Delaware County Fusileers, Capt. Simon Litzenberg; Company D, Gideon's Band, Capt. Norris L. Yarnall, and Company H, Delaware County Volunteers, Capt. James Barton, Jr., were chiefly recruited from the borough and were incorporated in the One Hundred and Twenty-first Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. During the drafting of 1862, Company K, Capt. Wm. B. Thatcher, of the Tenth Regiment Militia, was recruited in Chester, and in the emergency call of 1863, the Gettysburg campaign, Company A, Thirty-seventh Regiment Militia, Capt. William Frick,



Early Morn
and
Sunset
on the
Delaware



was recruited here. Company A, Capt. James Barton, Jr., was mustered into the One Hundred and Ninety-seventh Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Company K, Lieut. William B. Thatcher, of the One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, was recruited mostly from Chester, while on July 1st, of the same year, Company B of the Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. Geo. K. Crozer, was recruited at Upland.

Chester was incorporated as a city by the Act of Assembly, approved February 14, 1866, and John Larkin, Jr., became the first mayor of the city at a special election held one month later.

In April, 1866, the Legislature empowered the city of Chester to construct a water works, if the project was sustained by a popular vote of the people. The North and Middle wards rejected it, but the South ward adopted the measure, whereupon, on March 2, 1867, an Act was approved authorizing the South ward to construct a water works, which was done and operated by that section of the city as the South Chester Water Works until July 1, 1887, when the plant was sold to the New Chester Water Company, which has controlled it ever since.

1869. John Larkin, Jr., was elected mayor, for the second time.

1872. Dr. J. L. Forwood was elected mayor, defeating John Larkin, Jr., who had been nominated by the Republicans for a third term.

In 1872 John Roach purchased the Reaney shipbuilding plant and established "The Delaware River Iron, Shipbuilding & Engine Works," which he greatly enlarged and outfitted.

1875. Dr. J. L. Forwood was elected mayor for the second time.

May 13, 1874, the "City of Peking" (5079 tons), the largest vessel up to that time built in the United States, was launched at Roach's shipyard.

January 1, 1876. The Centennial year was ushered in with memorable ceremonies. At half past eleven o'clock, of the night of December 31, 1875, a Colonial salute of thirteen guns was fired by a detachment of Wilde Post, No. 25, G. A. R., and when the hands of the dial of the illuminated clock in the tower of the city hall marked the hour of twelve, the bells of the city rang out a joyous peal, while the music of the various bands, the cheers of the crowd, the discharge of firearms and cannon, the blowing of the whistles, all made a din such as Chester had never before known. A large procession, comprising all the military and fire companies and most of the civic societies of Chester and outlying boroughs, traversed the principal streets of the city amid the greatest enthusiasm.

July 4, 1876. Centennial Day was observed with a procession, which was the most imposing ever before seen in the city. Nearly every manufacturing establishment was represented in the ranks. Numerous floats, exhibiting the products of the town and fully six thousand persons took part in the parade. The literary exercises were conducted on the Beale House lawn, where now stands the Arcade Hotel and Black Block.

Tuesday, May 22, 1877, the steamship "Saratoga" was launched at Roach's shipyard. Without warning the vessel "slipped its shoes" and ran swiftly down the ways. A number of workmen under the ship were caught in the blocking. Seven were killed and many others seriously injured.

1878. Dr. J. L. Forwood was elected mayor for the third time.

April 6, 1878, the "City of Para" (3548 tons), of the Brazilian Line, was launched at Roach's shipyard. It was witnessed by President Hayes, members of his cabinet, together with several hundred senators, congressmen, and department officials, who had come from Washington in a special train; also Governor Hastings and his staff; all the guests of Mr. Roach. They were met by the city officials and conducted to the shipyard in carriages with military escort. The streets were crowded and fully ten thousand persons were present at the launching.

The Moyamensing Hook & Ladder Company was instituted April 7, 1868, and incorporated February 28, 1870. Its first truck and hose carriage was presented to it by the Moyamensing Company of Philadelphia.

More
of the
Same Kind



Ship Officers and
a plenty Immigrants



The SS Frankfurt
HAMBURG AMERICAN LINE as
caught by the camera on her way
to port.

Bound Outward



Fresh from Der Fatherland
Ocean Liners



Longing for the Shore

The Franklin Fire Company, No. 1, was instituted November 30, 1867, and incorporated February 22, 1869. Its first steam fire engine was purchased in 1874.

The Hanley Hose Company was instituted January 12, 1869, and incorporated February 22, 1869. Its first steam fire engine was owned by the city.

1881. James Barton, Jr., was elected mayor.

Thursday, February 16, 1882, the Pennsylvania Military Academy building was totally destroyed by fire.

Friday, February 17, 1882, Jackson's Pyrotechnical Manufactory, for which purpose the house built by Chief Justice Lloyd, in 1721, and later the birthplace of Admiral David D. Porter, was then used, took fire and a large stock of fireworks exploded, resulting in the death of eighteen persons and the wounding of fifty-seven others.

June 27, 1882, the Chester Street Railway Company was formed, and on February 1, 1883, began operating the road as a horse-car line. From that enterprise the present trolley railway system has developed.

The Bi-Centennial of Penn's Landing at Chester was celebrated Monday, October 23, 1882, that day being selected so as not to conflict with the remainder of the week's observance in Philadelphia. The landing of William Penn (impersonated by John J. Hare), was made as near the exact spot at Front and Penn streets as could be done, considering the changes made in the river bank in two hundred years. Among the persons present were Governor Henry W. Hoyt and staff, Adjt.-Genl. John W. Lather and Captain Deen, U. S. Revenue Service. Fully ten thousand persons were present. Hon. John M. Broomall delivered an oration, and in the afternoon a parade, commanded by Capt. William C. Gray, traversed the prominent streets of the city. Over six thousand persons participated.

The Felton Fire Company was instituted on November 2, 1882, and was incorporated on the twenty-ninth day of the same month.

Thursday, November 9, 1882, a number of members of the Pennsylvania Historical Society and the Penn Club unveiled the Penn Memorial stone at Front and Penn streets. It is of granite, in the form of a milestone, five feet in height and three by two feet at the base. It weighs over two tons and is set on a solid foundation of masonry.

In 1883 the Naval Department awarded to the Roach shipyard the construction of the famous dispatch boat "Dolphin" (1202 tons), the armored cruisers "Atlanta" and "Boston" (2296 tons each), and the "Chicago" (3527 tons). The building of these war vessels was the beginning of the new navy of the United States. Chester was the birthplace of the noted "White Squadron."

1884. Dr. J. L. Forwood was elected mayor for the fourth time.

1887. Maj. J. R. T. Coates elected mayor, defeating Dr. J. L. Forwood.

July 1, 1887, free delivery of postal matter was inaugurated in Chester.

October 3, 1887, North Chester borough, by ordinance, was incorporated with Chester city.

1890. Major Coates was re-elected mayor.

During the year 1890 the gunboats "Concord" and "Bennington" were launched at Roach's shipyard. The "Concord" was one of Dewey's squadron which, on Sunday, May 1, 1898, destroyed the Spanish fleet in Manila bay, and the "Bennington" was later lost in striking a rock on the uncharted coast of Luzon.

September 13-18, 1890, the State Firemen's Association held its eleventh annual convention at Chester.

1891. The Good Will Fire Company was inaugurated.

1893. John B. Hinkson elected mayor.

Samuel A. Crozer, in the summer of 1893, offered to donate to the city some thirty acres of land to be used as a public park. On July 14, 1894, the gift from Mr. Crozer was accepted by ordinance and the grounds, in recognition of the donor, was named Crozer Park.

1894. Larkin Grammar School building erected.

More of
Uncle Sam's
Fighters



Town at Chester



U.S. Cruiser Missouri

On the occasion of its visit to Chester
during Carnival week 1911,
carries fifty-six officers and seven hundred men



Landing of three hundred
Jackies who took part in the Floral Parade
and witnessed the crowning of the King and Queen

Lands had, from time to time, been donated by owners of tracts in the northern part of the city—late the borough of North Chester—for the purpose of creating a public park, entitled Chester Park, and on September 6, 1894, the Supreme Court authorized the incorporation of certain lands in Nether Providence with Chester city. Much land had been donated by Col. Samuel A. Dyer to enlarge the area of the park. The efforts of Edward Dickerson, a prominent contractor and builder, added largely to the success of the movement.

1896. Crosby M. Black elected mayor.

January 19, 1897, the borough of South Chester enacted an ordinance for the annexation of that municipality with the city. On February 27, of that year, the Councils of Chester passed an ordinance annexing South Chester, and at noon of that day Mayor Black took possession of the Borough Hall and assigned policemen to patrol the new territory. Prior to February 16, 1897, an appeal from the actions of both the city and borough authorities had been taken to court by citizens, and Judge Waddell, of Chester county, granted an injunction and referred the whole matter to George E. Darlington to report thereon as Master. The old borough officials resumed authority during the litigation. On September 27, 1897, the master reported to Judge Hemphill (Judge Waddell having died in the meantime), in which he held that the merger of the two municipalities had been legally effected. The report was approved. An appeal, however, was taken to the Supreme Court, but the bond being defective Judge Clayton made a decree *ad interim*, that the old borough should constitute the ninth ward of the city, which later was divided into the ninth, tenth and eleventh wards.

1899. Dr. Daniel W. Jefferis elected mayor.

July 4, 1899, a reception to Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley, the hero of the naval battles of Santiago, was tendered by the citizens of Chester at Chester Park.

1902. Chester High School building erected.

1902. Howard H. Houston elected mayor.

April 21, 1902, the Delaware County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution unveiled a bronze tablet on the walls of the Washington House. Mayor Howard H. Houston, Dr. P. H. Mowry and others delivered addresses.

April 20, 1903, the Delaware County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution unveiled a bronze tablet at the City Hall, on which occasion addresses were made by Mayor Houston, Garnett Pendleton, Esq., Rev. P. H. Mowry and others.

February 10, 1905, William H. Berry was elected mayor by a fusion movement. In the fall of that year he was elected State Treasurer by the Democratic party, and on December 30th resigned the office of mayor.

January 13, 1906, Samuel E. Turner, President of Select Council, was elected mayor by Councils *ad interim* to fill the vacancy occurring by William H. Berry's resignation.

April, 1906, Dr. Samuel R. Crothers was elected mayor for two years to fill the unexpired term of ex-Mayor Berry.

October 28, 1907, the Delaware County Historical Society had made most elaborate preparations to observe its two hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the landing of Penn at Chester, and those in charge felt that the occasion would prove a great public demonstration. But the day was a veritable downpour of rain, preventing any outdoor exercises. However, exercises were held in the Larkin Grammar School, and a dramatic presentation given at the Family Theater, while in the evening Gov. Edwin S. Stuart, Isaac Sharpless, President of Haverford College, and Garnett Pendleton, Esq., made addresses in the Third Presbyterian Church.

1908. David M. Johnson elected mayor.

April 13, 1908, the conductors and motormen of all the trolley lines controlled by the Chester Traction Company struck for an increase in wages. All



Post Office Building as Enlarged

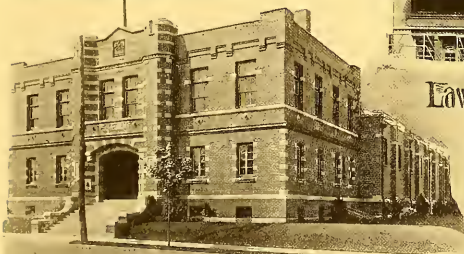
Group of Public and Office Buildings

Chester



Gibson Building

6th Regiment Armory



Law Building

business in the city was disturbed. The State Constabulary was called into service and nearly five months elapsed before the boycott by citizens was raised and the railways were again able to give undisturbed public service.

December 17, 1908, the ceremonial presentation of a silver service to the United States Scout Cruiser "Chester" was made at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Mayor D. M. Johnson, who with fifty officials and citizens had gone thither for that purpose, made the presentation address. The "Chester," which was named in honor of our city, and whose sponsor was Miss Dorothy, daughter of Senator William C. Sproul, had been ordered here in June to receive the service, but because of the railway strike the order was countermanded. Naval Commander Henry Baird Wilson accepted the gift on behalf of the vessel and the navy.

November 27th to December 1, 1909, the United States Cruiser "Chester" anchored in the Delaware off this port, and for five days Capt. Henry B. Wilson, her commander, officers and crew were the guests of our citizens, who made the occasion a memorable incident in the city's history.

1911. William Ward, Jr., elected mayor.

October 26, 1912, the two hundred and thirtieth anniversary of the landing of Penn at Chester was celebrated at the Washington House by the Colonial Society of Pennsylvania and the Swedish Colonial Society.

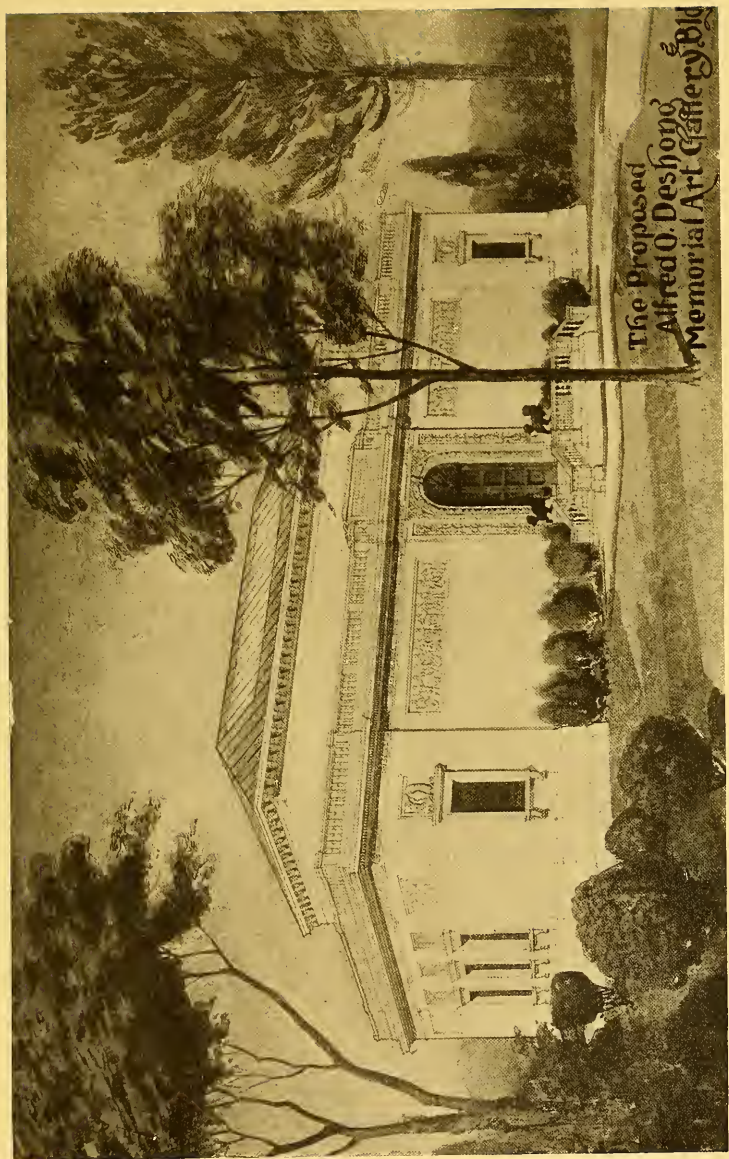
April 19, 1913, Alfred Odenheimer Deshong died leaving to trustees his estate, estimated at more than a million dollars, to establish, for the use of the people of the city, an art gallery and park in his spacious grounds on Edgmont avenue.

July 15, 1913, an Act of Assembly passed by the Legislature was approved by Governor Tener, providing for a body of five councilmen, one of whom shall act as mayor, to govern cities of the third class.

September 5-10, 1913. The thirty-fourth annual convention of the State Firemen's Association of Pennsylvania was held here. Although the weather was extremely hot on Thursday, the day of the parade, the turnout was the largest ever witnessed in the history of the association.

November 4, 1913, the following councilmen were elected under the new Act governing cities of the third class: Wesley S. McDowell, Joseph H. Messick, J. K. Hagerty and Charles B. Mould; Mayor Ward, having an unexpired term of two years to serve, making the required number. The Council first went into executive session on the first day of December following the election.





The Proposed
Alfred O. Deshong
Memorial Art Gallery Bldg.



HOUSING THE WORKING PEOPLE

By CAROL ARONOVICI, Ph.D.

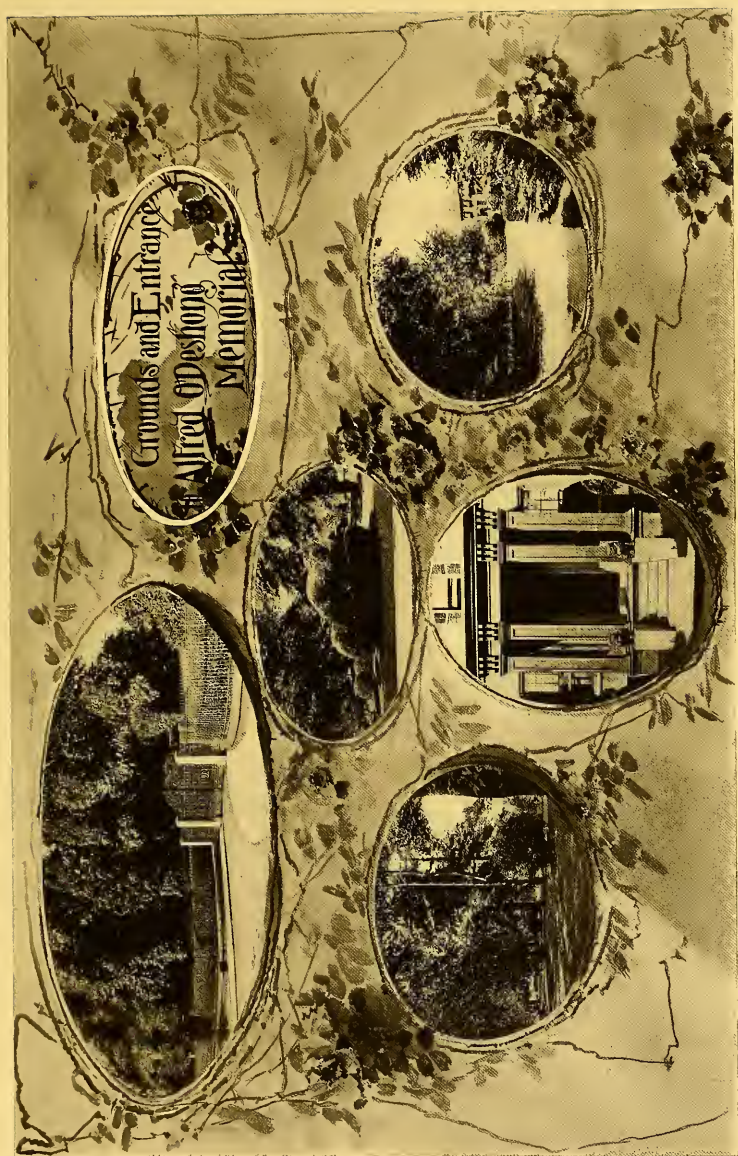


HE city of Chester is facing a large expansion of business and an unprecedented increase in its population, which must of necessity follow. The future of the city will depend not so much upon the number of factories it can lure to its precincts, nor upon the number of workers who find employment in a variety of industries, but in the way in which these people live and make their homes. Recent years have shown that it is more advantageous to live in the proximity of a large metropolis than to be a part of it. Such is the case of Chester. It is within easy reach of Philadelphia and yet it is sufficiently distant from its boundaries to render it immune to the regrettable urban conditions which large cities must develop, with the increase in congestion and the consequent increase in the cost of human comfort. There are in the city of Chester hundreds of acres of land, which could comfortably accommodate twice as much population than is to be found within the limits of the city and provide better homes, more open space, less congestion, and a better system of community development than is to be found at the present time in any of the Pennsylvania cities or in Chester itself.

In the matter of housing conditions, Chester is no different than other Pennsylvania cities that have been developed without a properly worked-out plan.

With the appointment of a Planning Commission, which has recently been made mandatory by the State Legislature, and the increased public spirit developed in the community by the realization of the commercial and living opportunities afforded, it is expected that a plan will be devised that will meet not only the present needs of the city, but that it will prepare the field for a normal future development rendering unsanitary conditions impossible.

One of the best advantages of Chester is its location in the proximity of undeveloped land areas which may eventually become a part of the city. Those who may be seeking homes are, therefore, not confined to the precincts of the city, as it is legally defined, but can easily be within the reach of the center of industrial activity and business sections and still remain close to the open country that has so





abundantly been provided with picturesque vistas and easy means of access to the social and industrial centers.

There is a great future before the city if the citizens will only realize in time the conditions under which the community should develop. A recent investigation has shown that the demand for homes is very great, but on account of the lack of clearly defined zones of industrial, commercial and residential distribution throughout the city, there is considerable hesitancy on the part of reliable builders to undertake the construction of houses in large numbers. The way is clear, however, for the development of a city plan that will be far reaching in character and will fix the development lines of the city in accordance with its present demands and future needs. It is hoped, however, that when a plan is made and home building is encouraged, the laws now in force in Chester will be recognized and proper regulations adopted for the benefit of those who are ultimately to occupy the houses as well as in the interest of existing homes.

The present employment capacity of Chester, as far as its industries are concerned, can be trebled and the territory now within the precincts of the city is ready for development, so that it would accommodate the additional population necessitated by an increase in industrial activities.

If we examine the figures concerning the population we find that a decided increase has taken place in the last ten years. The citizens of Chester are therefore beginning to realize that the time has come for the city to develop its natural harbor advantages and the splendid industrial sites which are now unused. The lack of more rapid development has not been due to any inherently unfavorable conditions to be found in Chester. They have been due to the conservative policies followed by the local government and the difficulty that one must encounter in an established community.

Should the local government and the leading citizens of Chester realize the importance of developing its natural resources, and should the public come to an understanding of the best methods of community development, Chester could not be prevented from becoming the foremost port in the State and one of the world's commercial and industrial centers. The city should secure the land fronting on the Delaware river and develop its docking facilities along the most modern lines. Land should be offered free of charge to industrial concerns



Driveway
Alfred O. Deshong



Selected from
Views in
Galleries of
Alfred O. Deshong
Memorial



willing to take advantage of the local opportunities for locating factories within reach of three of the most important railroads of the country, and one of the best and safest navigable rivers in the United States. Exemptions from taxation, free land and proper docking facilities would make Chester the commercial and industrial center of the Middle Atlantic Coast. This is not a vision, but a clear and feasible proposition that has been tried out in European cities with the greatest success.

The city could easily afford to secure a loan, not for the purpose of burdening the property owners with responsibilities for extravagant street construction or fanciful improvements, but for the purpose of giving itself a chance to become what is within the city's power—a progressive, active, growing and prosperous community. The increase in the number of homes, the large volume of local business, and the consequent increase in taxable property, will more than pay for the improvements and the exemptions from taxation or gifts of land made to incoming industrial plants. Instead of Eddystone and other outlying districts, Chester would gain in industrial growth and in population. It is all a matter of applying intelligent methods to public business, and the future of Chester will be determined not by its conservatism or false notions of its natural advantages, but by the actual efforts and intelligence applied to the planning of the larger city.

Chester, as a city of homes, does not represent the highest practical standards, nor can one look with favor upon the homes that are being provided for wage earners in some sections of the city. There are, however, hundreds of acres of land awaiting development, and the city is now ready to render the service whereby the unattractive type of building will be replaced by a high type of home worthy of American standards and the future prosperity of Chester.



Reproduced
From Art Treasures
of
Alfred O'Deshono's
Memorial



CITY PLANNING



HESTER has outgrown the accommodations afforded in the business sections. West Third street is no longer adequate as a district for large stores. There is too much congestion in traffic and little chance of advancement in keeping with the growth and requirements of the city. Market street will never be considered a modern business thoroughfare unless widened, and unless the smaller and unattractive buildings give way to larger and better-class construction.

Edgmont avenue, from the railroad to Ninth street, is not likely to advance beyond what it represents to-day.

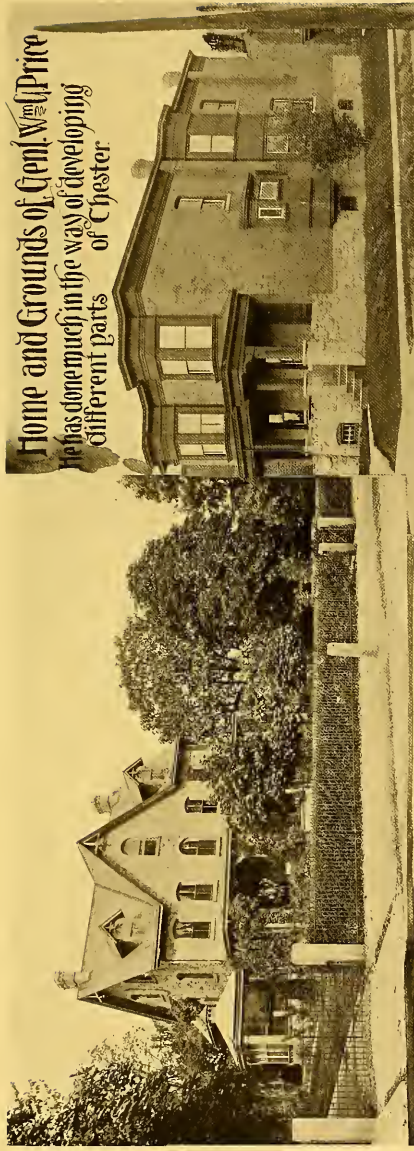
The question, as to which section of the city will some day be the advanced business district, is not easily answered. It is not a random thought to predict that Seventh street, Eighth street, and Ninth street, from New Market street to Morton avenue, will largely comprise the shopping center of Chester in future years. That the present lower retail district will continue as a trading point goes without saying. It will, however, be occupied more largely by merchants who aim to meet the demand for the cheaper and lower grades of goods.

Chester can never hope to control all the better-class trade—keep it from going to Philadelphia—unless larger and better retail stores are provided and conducted in the most modern and attractive manner. Philadelphia, because of being only a few minutes' ride from Chester by fast train, and only an hour by trolley or boat, and having the largest and finest retail stores to be found in any city, will always be more or less of an attraction to the housewives of Chester.

Not that Chester has no live merchants, for it has. But the number is not large enough, and their facilities are not great enough, to stem the tide of trade traffic from home.

What then is the remedy at hand? Simply this: Plan your city with a view of meeting future requirements. Plan for looking after trade and industry as well as the housing of more people. Plan to bring the people of outlying districts into the city to make their purchases, and give them the right kind of attention when they come.

It is absolutely necessary that a new city plan be adopted, which shall determine years in advance the physical needs of a city that should



Home and Grounds of Gen. Wm. Price
 He has done much in the way of developing
 different parts of Chester.



One like this on
 Parker street for
 \$18 per month. A
 cosy and well finished
 9 room house.

Two of a large
 operation on
 Kerlin St

Attractive 10 room
 dwellings renting at
 \$25 per month.



at least grow to three times its present size in the next quarter of a century.

Chester will soon have an opportunity of availing itself of the benefits of the new Metropolitan Planning Commission, recently appointed by Governor Tener, under a special Act of the last State Legislature. Another recent Act gives to Mayors of third-class cities the authority to appoint a "City Commission," whose duty it will be to have prepared plans for the future development of the municipality it represents. In this connection, it is expected that the Chester City Commission, when appointed, will work in conjunction with the Metropolitan Planning Commission.

The purpose of the latter Commission is to formulate plans providing for parks, boulevards, water, sewerage systems and housing facilities, not losing sight of the trade and industrial needs of the territory surrounding Philadelphia for a distance of twenty-five miles. The services of the world's best experts will be employed by the Commission to work out the problems of traffic, complex activities, health, comforts, and pleasures of a rapidly increasing populace in a rapidly growing industrial center, surrounded by a most attractive and fast-advancing suburban district.

It is claimed that, with the exception of Washington, no American city was ever planned. That Chester was badly laid out there is no question. The benefits to be derived from laying down a plan and working to it are manifold in things ever so small. How much more so should they be when applied to a city the size of Chester?

If we have been neglectful there is no good reason why we should not profit in the future by the mistakes made in the past. The various planning associations are giving much thought to the subject. For the districts in and about Philadelphia and Chester, the following reasons why some comprehensive plan should be adopted, for the betterment of the territory surrounding these cities for twenty-five miles, are suggested, as follows:

Past errors in planning and developing cities and suburban districts, due to allowing their extension under the stimulus of private enterprise and according to the dictates of individual interest, have heretofore caused large expense to the taxpayers, and will hereafter cause greater expense in an effort to correct them.

*Taylor Terrace
Workingmen's Homes
Erected by J Irvin Taylor*

Rent
\$15
per Month



*The Simmonds
Art Store
on Market Street
A View of the
Salesroom*

*Making
Picture Frames*





Lack of consideration of the topographical features of the surrounding sections in planning for any one political division, and confining improvements to the arbitrary limits of county, township or borough, tend to inefficiency and to increased cost of construction, operation and maintenance.

Public demands require from the authorities services often in excess of what the current funds at their command allow, consequently necessitating the raising of money by bond issues; and suburban districts in and around Philadelphia and Chester are facing large expenditures to provide proper water supply, sewers, highways, garbage-disposal plants, parks, playgrounds, hospitals for contagious diseases.

The interests of the section represented by the city of Philadelphia, Chester and their environments would be best served, and a maximum of economy and efficiency in construction, operation and maintenance be secured, by the adoption of some far-sighted and well-conceived plan of development, in which the mutual needs of the various political divisions are considered as a whole.

Such results can only be obtained through co-operation and joint action by the various political units, and through the preparation by experts of a comprehensive plan embracing the entire section, in which the sanitary, economic and æsthetic laws governing the contemporaneous development of rural, suburban and urban districts, will be carefully considered.

The best development of the suburban territory surrounding Philadelphia and Chester requires the planning, execution and maintenance of such public works as main sewers, main highways, parkways and parks, water supply, collection and incineration of household waste, etc., through the voluntary joint action of the various communities interested in adopting a comprehensive scheme.

There is no satisfactory provision under our present laws for such co-operation or for the supervision and regulation of building operations, or for the condemnation of property for parks, playgrounds and other public necessities, including power to condemn in excess of that required for direct public use, with the right of re-sale under proper restrictions of the excess portion, or for the preparation of official plans showing the location of future streets, parks and other improvements, and to prevent buildings being erected within the lines of such streets.

Galey Hardware Company

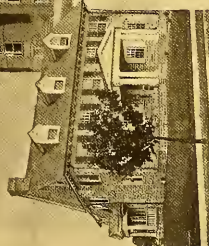
Presents recent operations if furnished with Hardware



Franklin Public School



Supplies all Factory Wants
Builders Hardware, Mill Supplies
Cutlery, Tools, Paints and Oils, Sporting Goods, Machinery Supplies



Dr. Van Kester's House



W.G. Price Operation



Lapidea Manor



Such necessary enabling legislation can be secured from the Legislature only by the united demands of the different suburban districts, backed by an aroused public sentiment.

With a view of arriving at a plan by which the various communities might be encouraged to join in the movement to further the interests of the respective districts referred to, a Suburban Planning Conference was held in Philadelphia on October 10th, and another in Chester, December 11, 1913. Representatives of each governmental or administrative department in the various political units within twenty-five miles of Philadelphia were invited, and both meetings were well attended. Other similar conferences will be held during the year 1914 and a comprehensive report of the result of these gatherings is to be published in pamphlet form.

The following concise outline of what City Planning means, as stated by Mr. Arthur C. Comey, Consultant on City Planning, Member Massachusetts Homestead Commission, and American Society of Landscape Architects, at a recent meeting in Library Hall, this city, is well worth studying:

CITY PLANNING MEANS:

Conservation of human energy and life.	Not merely superficial beautification,
Economy, necessity, scientific reality.	Not extravagance, dreams, fads.
A definite plan of orderly development into which each improvement will fit as it is needed.	Not the immediate execution of the whole plan.
Business methods for city work.	Not the surrender of the city to artists with vague schemes for civic advancement.
Correlation of the city's activities.	Not wholesale alterations at great expense, with no assured financial returns.

Encouragement of commerce and facilitation of business.	Not the interruption of commerce and business.
Preservation of historic buildings with their associations.	Not the destruction of the old landmarks and city individuality.
The development of an American city.	Not imitation of London, Vienna and Paris.
Exercise of common foresight and prudence.	Not ruinous expense and debt.
Happiness, convenience, health for all citizens.	Not merely expensive boulevards and parks available to the rich.

With the above interesting thoughts and suggestions on how Chester could be still further advanced, let us turn our attention to the industrial opportunities the city affords.

THE OLD TOWN HALL



THE new administration should use every means available to further the movement to restore the Old Town Hall to its original form and perpetuate this historic structure to future generations. Philadelphia thought enough of Congress Hall to have that structure restored to its original shape, and the nation applauded the act.

There is not a more historically valuable public building in Pennsylvania or elsewhere than Chester's town hall. For nearly two hundred years has it been uninterruptedly used as a public building. It is one of the oldest landmarks in Pennsylvania and has been associated with the early history of the nation like few other buildings in the country.

Chester needs larger and better municipal quarters. Such could readily be provided by the erection of a building in the rear of the old hall, and at a cost that would mean a saving to the city over its present cost of providing for the various departments.

The Old Town Hall should be treasured for its historic value and its preservation amid attractive surroundings, is a duty we should not hesitate to perform. The lately retired Councils did what they could to pave the way for bringing about the proper care of the old building and providing for a modern municipal administrative building. A single official seems to have blocked the consummation of what the Mayor and all other city officials favored. The delay is thought to be only temporary, however.

It will be a shame and lasting disgrace to the citizens of Chester if they sit idly by and permit the Old Town Hall to lose its historical identity by going into disuse and decay. It is also no less important that more proper accommodations be provided for the various departments of the city. This can only be done, with credit to the municipality, by the erection of a new and modern building.



INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITIES



EW cities afford greater opportunities for trade expansion than does Chester. Its natural facilities are unsurpassed. It is a great manufacturing center and is destined to become much greater.

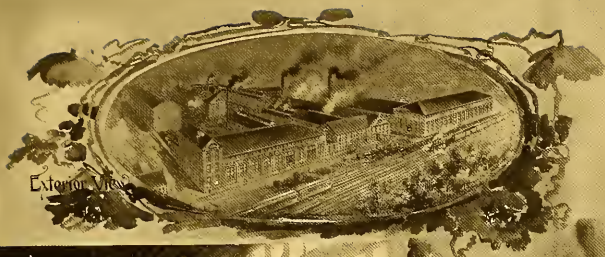
Year by year the lines of manufacture within its borders and the immediate surroundings are becoming more and more diversified. In the last five years some of the greatest industries known to the world have located at Chester or in its outskirts, and many smaller plants have cast their lot with us in the same period of time. Time was when a depression in the textile trade of the country made Chester dull, indeed. That was a quarter of a century or more ago, when the larger percentage of our wage earners were textile workers and Chester had few other lines of industry. While there are at present large textile plants giving employment to Chester labor, the greatest percentage of our workmen are employed in the iron and steel industries.

Chester wants more people and more industries. More people to make use of its very desirable home sites; more industries to make use of its unsurpassed manufacturing sites.

The splendid views of industrial plants, as shown in the engravings of this book, convey an idea of the size and importance of a number of the manufacturing concerns in Chester and vicinity. Some of them are world famous; many more are not equaled in other cities.

No better proof of Chester's superior advantages over other places could be offered, to the manufacturer in search of a new location, than the fact that we have here the best industrial sites to be found in the United States. This assertion is backed by indisputable evidence.

In the first place consider Chester as the cradle of the American Navy, for here it was that the first steel war vessels for the United States were built, and no better cruiser, gunboat, or merchant vessel ever floated the American flag, or that of any other nation, than those built and launched under the direction of the late John B. Roach and his father before him. Since the death of the son this industry has been abandoned and the great shipyard, which was once the pride of Chester, is only history to the younger generation.



Exterior View



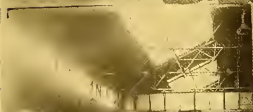
In the Machine Shop

Plant of
The Robert Wetherill
Company, Incorporated

Covers two squares of ground
and is a great industry



Another view



The Boiler Shop



In one of the cuts of this book will be seen the tall masts that stand as sentinels of the past, and which mark the site of what was once Roach's shipyard. None of the older residents can view the picture without a feeling of sadness. The closing, for all time, of the Delaware River Shipbuilding & Engine Works, was the heaviest blow Chester ever experienced. It was the life's ambition of its founder that, in addition to the building of ships, a great and modern dry-dock should become a part of Chester. The old shipyard site and some of the adjacent lands would be ideal for such an enterprise.

It is to be hoped that the dream of that sturdy pioneer, who, by his foresight, skill and industry, did so much to advertise and bring fame to Chester on the high seas and in every port of the civilized world, will be some day actualized by the building of a dry-dock, headed by Chester capitalists, that may serve as a fitting monument to the memory of the one who was, industrially speaking, the backbone of Chester—John Roach.

Naturally, time has brought about many changes in industrial lines here. The pioneers in manufacture have passed away and, with their departure, in not a few cases, did also stop the machinery that for years represented the basis of employment to hands and profit to the mill owner. Other men and other kinds of industries have, however, taken their places, so that with very few exceptions there are no idle factory buildings here. Many new and varied industries have come to this district in recent years. Those which have come are prosperous and are growing more so year by year.

Unquestionably the largest addition to Chester's long list of industries was made when that largest of all industrial plants, The Baldwin Locomotive Works, located at its very door. In all, the Baldwin plant covers an area of 224 acres. This is land enough to house a population of 13,440 people, based on twelve families to the acre.

Some idea of the greatness of this industry may be gathered by quoting from an address delivered by Mr. Alba B. Johnson, president of The Baldwin Locomotive Works, on the occasion of a "Know-Your-Neighbor" dinner, tendered Mr. Johnson by the citizens of Chester, under the direction of the Civic Advancement Commission, in January of last year. The affair was one of the most notable gatherings ever held in Chester and was participated in by manufacturers, business

Plant of Seaboard Steel Casting Company

One of our Largest & Most Successful
Industries



In the Foundry



Where the Castings
are machined.



As seen from the Delaware

The Chipping Shop



and professional men, representing interests of upwards of 100 million dollars.

Mr. Johnson reviewed the history of The Baldwin Locomotive Works from 1831, the year that Matthias W. Baldwin began the construction of "Old Ironsides," his first locomotive, and which required one year in its construction.

"The first locomotive weighed four and one-half tons," stated Mr. Johnson, "while the average weight of locomotives constructed last year was 150 tons, and the maximum weight was about 250 tons. It took thirty years to construct the first 1000 locomotives."

It seems that the capacity of the works grew rapidly after the civil war, for the number of locomotives turned out in 1861 was 100, compared with one a day in 1876. By 1880 the plant was manufacturing locomotives at the rate of 500 a year. This was still further increased to 1000 a year in 1900, and to 2500 a year in 1906.

Mr. Johnson told of the Baldwin works finding it necessary to branch out in 1906, as the Philadelphia plant was not anything like large enough to take care of the orders. In May of that year the property at Eddystone, a suburb of Chester, was purchased. Here follows a brief description of some of the buildings erected: Foundry, 900 feet long and 320 feet in width, followed by smith shops, pattern shops, pattern storage houses, and a power house. Because of the business depression of 1908-1909 no further development was made during these years, but in 1910 a new erecting shop was built, which was enlarged in 1912. This building covers nearly ten acres of ground alone.

Quoting from Mr. Johnson's speech, we find that the number of employes at the Eddystone plant was "1100 in 1906; 2850 in 1907; 2400 in 1908; 2400 in 1909; 4200 in 1910; 3650 in 1911; 7000 in 1912." And here follows an interesting statement, where he says:

"Further development of these works will be made as rapidly as the business conditions of the country justify. Plans have been prepared for a modern, comprehensive plant capable of turning out 3000 of the largest locomotives per annum. As the labor of ten men is required per locomotive, per annum, if these plans are realized, these works should eventually require a force of 30,000 men. Assuming an average of five persons to a family, this represents a population of 150,000 without counting the large additional population necessary to supply the general needs of the community." Continuing, Mr. John-

The Baldwin Locomotive Works



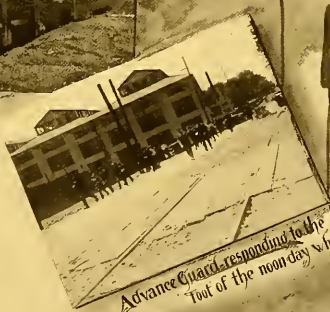
Ready for Delivery



Going West



Giving the Finishing Touches



Advance Guard responding to the
Toot of the noon-day whistle



son said: "Of 6840 men employed at Eddystone, it was ascertained that 3555 were residents of Chester, 505 were residents of the suburban districts between Chester and Philadelphia, and 2780 were residents of Philadelphia, finding transportation to Eddystone over the Pennsylvania and the Baltimore & Ohio railroads, and over the trolley lines."

The above somewhat lengthy description of what The Baldwin Locomotive Works is and, as appears at a glance, must be to Chester, is set forth in order that those who read these pages may become conversant with its magnitude and importance. Before directing our thoughts to another subject, let us stop long enough to consider Mr. Johnson's closing remarks, as follows:

"The interests of The Baldwin Locomotive Works are bound up with the interests of Chester. What is best for you is best for us. The days of civic inactivity should be over. I call upon you, citizens of Chester, to realize the fact that by birthright in this great state of Pennsylvania, by your magnificent situation upon the shore of the Delaware river, by the splendid lands available for residence, by the intelligence of your people, you are a part of the great manufacturing community which must of necessity develop, because you occupy one of the most favorable situations in our country. With unequaled transportation by land and sea, with unsurpassed access to raw materials of every kind, with intelligent and industrious labor ready to make their homes amongst you, by ample capital and enterprise, ready to distribute weekly such sums for wages and materials as to constitute the life blood of commerce, the future is in your hands to create a great city if you will intelligently adopt the highest civic ideals."

It is not out of place to state that The Baldwin Locomotive Works, after eighty-two years of continuous operation, completed its forty-thousandth locomotive about the first of September last.

Locomotive No. 40,000 is one of thirty similar engines built for the Pennsylvania lines west of Pittsburgh.



The Forty-
thousandth Locomotive



The Baldwin Locomotive Works

Eddystone, Pa.

Destined to become the World's
greatest Industry, and plans to
employ 30000 hands

View of the Erecting Shop:
occupies nearly 10 acres of
ground, is the biggest industrial
building in the world, and has a
capacity for 5000 employees



The Interior as caught by the
Camera on a Sunday Morning



A Great Iron Horse
Measures 100 ft. in length
and weighs 150 tons



Birdseye view of Blacksmith Shops and Foundries



It is used for heavy passenger service, is of the "Pacific" type with three pairs of driving wheels, and weighs about 150 tons.

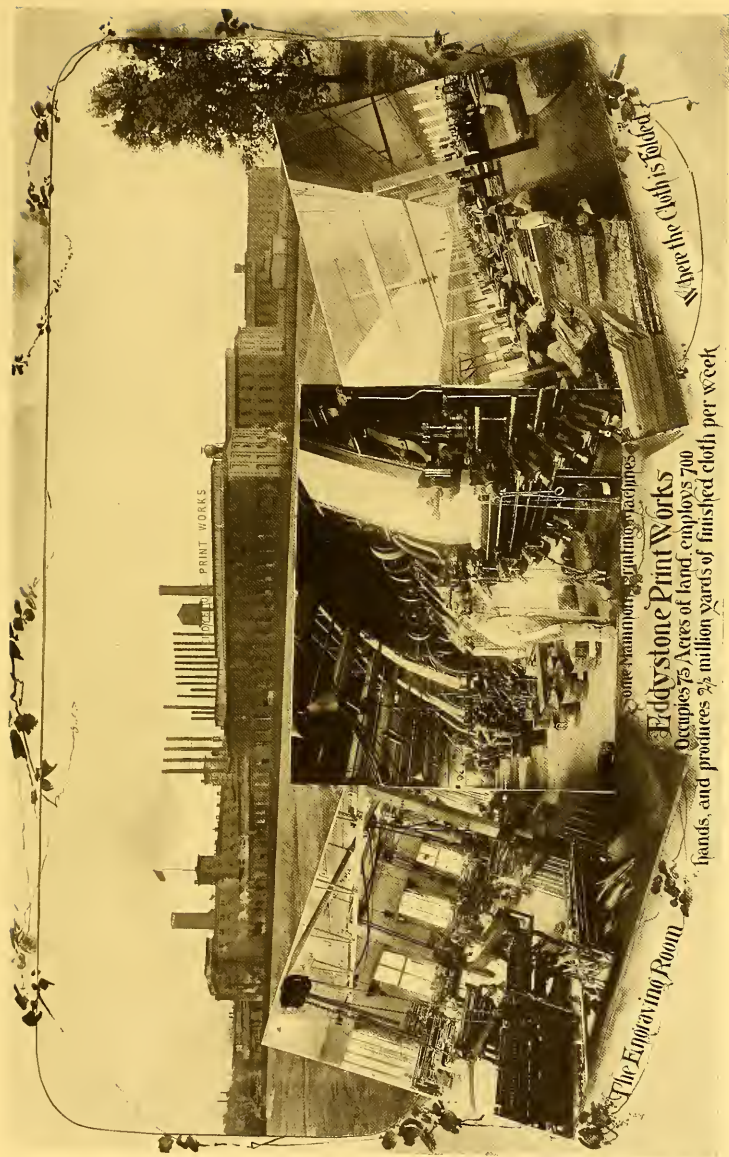
Just as good judgment led men like Alba B. Johnson and his co-workers to come to Chester and establish the needed enlargement of The Baldwin Locomotive Works, so, too, good judgment was the means of the American Viscose Company locating at Marcus Hook, a suburb of this city. The latter enterprise is also a new and most important industry. It was founded by English capitalists who came to this country to establish a branch plant of one of the greatest industrial enterprises known to the world.

Artificial silk is the commodity manufactured, and the immense plant at Marcus Hook is constantly being increased to meet the demand for this very popular and useful product.

The key to "The Dawn of a New Era" for Chester is the self-reliance of its people. There are no weak or cracked links in the chain of progress that is being lengthened out at the forge of industry.

No gem sparkles so gracious as enterprise, and no other place holds out more inducements for the development of enterprise than does this city.

As the title page of this book states, Chester and vicinity is "Full of Opportunities." It has more to offer than most other places, because few are so well situated. It has more to commend it than other places, because its natural facilities are greater than those of any other city. In short, no other city presents so many industrial opportunities as does Chester. Its activity is fully protected by the unbounded wealth of its resources; its hum of industry fully reciprocated by the peace and happiness of its people.



Where the Cloth is Folded

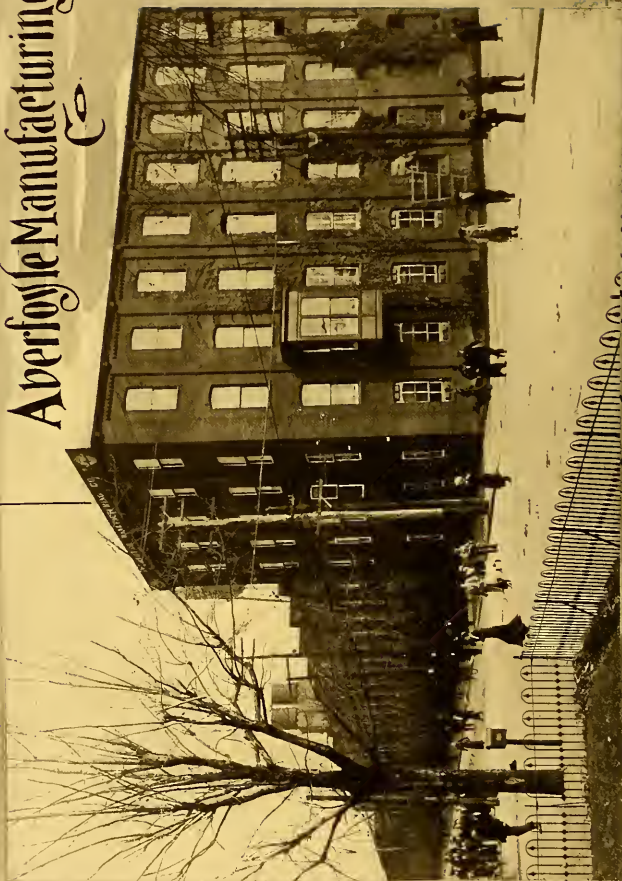
PRINT WORKS

Eddystone Print Works
 Occupies 7½ Acres of land, employs 700
 hands, and produces 2½ million yards of finished cloth per week

The Employing Room

One Million Printing Machines

Averfoyle Manufacturing Co.



Manufactures Fine Novelty Wash Goods and Shirtings
and does Yarn Mercerizing and Dyeing... Gives Steady Employment to 1000

Scott Paper
Company
Philadelphia and Chester
Views of Chester Plant
and Product.



Hygienic Products for Home and Public



NATURAL RESOURCES



LOCATED as Chester is, in close proximity to the biggest trading centers of the United States, it is an ideal place for those who are here and others who may wish to come and share in its advantages as a commercial and industrial city. Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore and Washington are within easy reach of Chester and afford means of interchange in commerce and trade, by rail and water, not equaled elsewhere.

Its natural resources are many. Being practically a seaport town, with the advantages of a superior inland harbor, places Chester in a most enviable position as compared to other cities. It is a city destined to become a great shipping center, greater than Philadelphia, because of its excellent water front. Far-sighted men of affairs predict that a continuous-dock system, reaching from Crum river to the Delaware State line, a distance of approximately seven miles, will be the future facilities of the port of Chester. To bring this about will require an expenditure of millions of dollars, in which expense both the State and National Government are expected to share.

In reality, Chester to-day has a population of 60,000 people, if the adjoining boroughs are considered. In the next twenty-five years the population is likely to reach 200,000, for by that time the city boundaries will be extended to the Ridley Park borough line on the east and to the Delaware State line on the west.

As indicated by the map at the end of this book, that amount of territory added to Chester of to-day will comprise about ten square miles and provide for a population of 275,000, based on twelve families to the acre, after deducting part of the area for industrial establishments, and setting aside 500 acres for churches, schools, parks and playgrounds.

Along the Delaware river front are many industries, but there is room for more. Manufacturing is in its infancy here. Eight million dollars are paid annually in wages to the working people of Chester. This will be greatly increased.

Three important tributary rivers—Crum, Ridley and Chester—empty into the majestic Delaware and are navigable for some distance



Terra Cotta
Office Building
of
O.W. Ketcham
Works.
Crum Lynne, Pa.



Della Robbia Panel in
Entrance of St. Peter's Rectory
at New Brighton, Staten Island, N.Y.
Modelled and executed at Ketcham Works.

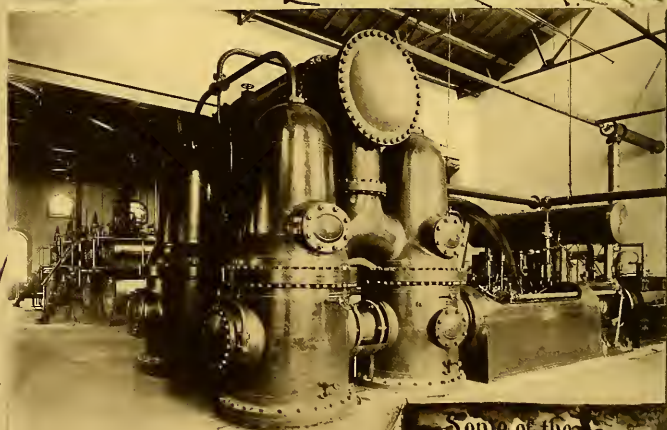


Belmont Iron Works, Eddystone, Pa.
Steel Bridges and Buildings

Pumping
Station
Capacity 18,000,000
Gallons Daily

New Chester Water Company

Supplies Chester and Vicinity with Pure Water
Four to Thirty inch Pipes Reaching out 100 Miles



Some of the
Best Pumps

One of the Settling Basins
Capacity 2,000,000 Gallons

New Chester Water Company Filtration Plant

at Harrison's Hill, four miles from the Delaware River - Elevation 205 feet above High Water - Afford-
ing 60 to 80 Pounds Pressure

Filter House and Clear Water Basin
Basin Capacity 4,000,000 Gallons

Interior of Filter House
Capacity 10,000,000 Gallons



inland for small draft vessels. All these streams add value to Chester's resources.

Thousands of acres of land, with small hamlets dotted here and there, plenty of woodland and splendid roadways, serve as a background for Chester on the banks of the Delaware. All this, added to a climate in which the winters are mild and the heat of summer never excessive, makes Chester an ideal place in which to live. It is a good "all-the-year-'round" climate, pleasing in summer as well as in winter.

Cyclones and tornadoes are unknown to Chester. The district comprising the city and surroundings is rarely visited by wind storms of any kind, such disturbances passing either over or around the city. An occasional thunder storm during the summer season breaks over the community, but never with disastrous results.

After all is said, the chief attractions of Chester are its natural resources and acquired facilities, its even climate, its steady growth, its superior advantages over other places and, last but not least, the inducements it holds out to those seeking homes or industrial sites.



Water Gas Plant

Output 1000 000
cu. ft. every
24 hours



Suburban Gas Company Office and Appliance Building



Using our Meters that have
Been in Service



Coal Gas and By-product
Coke Ovens
Producing 2,000,000 cu. ft. daily
of gas and 250 tons of coke

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES



CHESTER, because of its geographical position, has many advantages as a center of industry, commerce, and trade. In point of shipping it is practically a seaport town, being fifteen miles nearer the sea than Philadelphia, the third largest port in the United States. The historic Delaware river is, in truth, Chester's greatest asset. It indeed provides a great water front, as it skirts the city on its way eighty-four miles to the sea. It is one and a quarter miles across its bosom from Chester to the New Jersey shore, and has a channel thirty-five feet deep, sufficient to accommodate the largest of ocean-going vessels. All kinds of craft, from the speed or pleasure motor boat to a full-rigged ship of commerce or ocean liner, may be seen at any hour of the day or night skimming over or plunging through its smooth or choppy bosom. Vessels from foreign shores dock and discharge their cargoes at Chester, under the supervision of the Customs officials of the port.

Many ships are loaded here with cargoes for foreign markets. Among the industries that have their own fleets of vessels may be mentioned the Sun Company, located at Marcus Hook, a suburb on the west, which sends out shipload after shipload of petroleum and its by-products to all parts of the world.

The products more largely imported to this port are iron and chrome ores, magnesite, gypsum, logwood, fustic and mahogany; paper and wood pulp. In the line of exports, refined oil is the chief product shipped. There are also large car shipments made of fireproofing materials and fire bricks to Canada and other points.

The Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio, and Philadelphia & Reading railroads provide for shipments to and from all parts of the United States. Both the freight and passenger service extended to Chester by the above-named three trunk roads is superior to that of most any other city.

A business trip to New York City can be made in two and a half hours. Washington can be reached in three hours' time, while but twenty minutes is required to ride to Philadelphia. There are 125 passenger trains that stop at Chester daily. Not many cities of the size of Chester can boast of such extensive transportation facilities. Then, too, the freight accommodations by rail are equal to the passenger service. All three roads handle through freight, and rates from the East and West are equal to those accorded Philadelphia.

The Chester Freight Line has three large vessels that run from Marcus Hook to Philadelphia daily, except Sunday, and freight is taken on and discharged at Chester, Eddystone and other places. These vessels afford a quick means of transportation, and the splendid service is of great value to the manufacturers and business men of Chester.

An additional feature of travel is that afforded by the river steamers plying between Wilmington, Chester and Philadelphia, to say nothing of the many excursion boats that ply the waters to various points in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland.



Chester Freight Line Steamers

Plying between Marcus Hook,
Chester, Eddystone, and
Philadelphia



Convenient and Quick
Service All the Year
Capacity 500 Tons
Daily

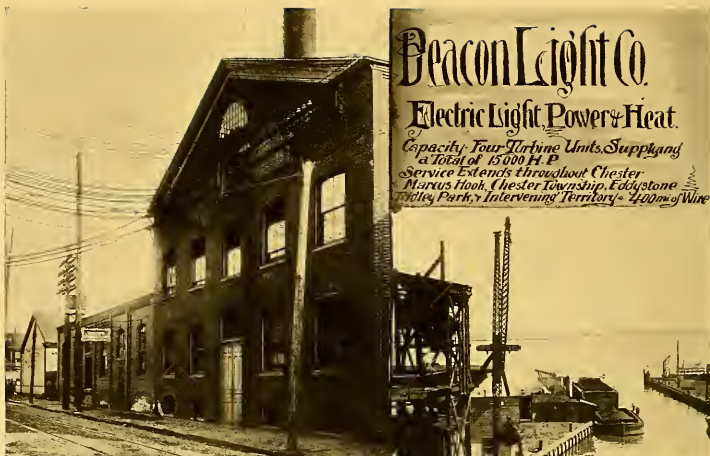
Direct Connections to all
Points East, West, South
and Southwest
by Water

Beacon Light Co.

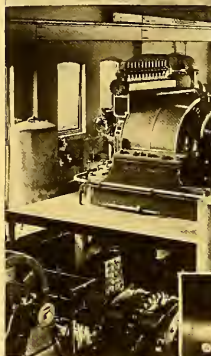
Electric Light, Power & Heat.

Capacity Four Turbine Units, Supplying
a Total of 15,000 H. P.

Service Extends throughout Chester
Marcus Hook, Chester Township, Edgystone
Molten Park, & Intervening Territory - 4,000 sq. Miles



Front View of Main Plant
on Second Street



In the Turbine
Room

Electrical
Department

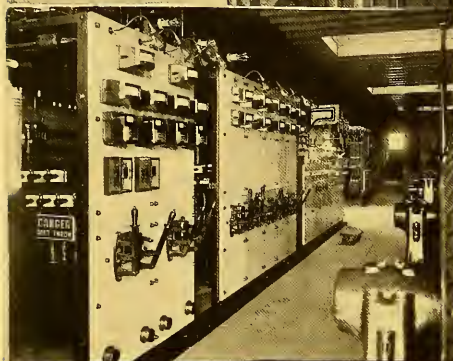
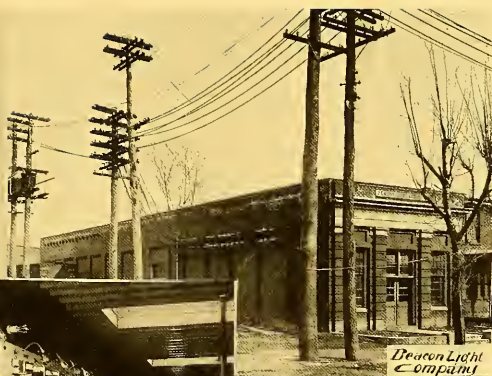


The Coal Conveyor

Extends from the
Delaware River to the
Plant



View of
Beacon Light
Company
Sub Station
at Front and Reaney Sts.



Sub-Station
Interior
Showing Switchboards
and Motor Generator Sets



Mercury Arc Rectifier
Transformers Main Plant



Switchboard for
Mercury Arc
Rectifier Outfit

LOW COST OF LIVING



BECAUSE of its location, Chester affords better and cheaper markets in the line of foodstuff than many other places. It is here that the products of three states are brought to the doors of the dealer and the consumer. New Jersey contributes abundantly. The Jersey sweet potato is known far and wide for its flavor and sustenance. Various other lines of vegetables and many kinds of fruit are brought to Chester markets from the sandy soil of that state. Delaware supplies peaches and berries, eggs, butter and other table delicacies, while the products from the farming districts of Pennsylvania are brought to the city in all freshness and abundance.

Because of a large packing house being established here, the people of Chester are provided with more and better meats than otherwise would be the case. The products of western houses and home-dressed meats are displayed in our markets, side by side, with the patronage of our people favoring the home-killed product.

Then, too, the oyster from the beds of the Delaware and Susquehanna bays furnishes a succulent food for eight months of the year, while the toothsome Delaware river shad has few, if any, equals the world over. Many other kinds of fish are caught in nearby streams for home consumption, and game in great variety is also to be had.

Chester is an ideal place for a workingman to live. He can enjoy a better table and at less cost than is to be had elsewhere. The variety of edibles is so much greater than most cities afford that foods, which may be termed luxuries in other places, are only of commonplace attraction here.

During the winter months vegetables and fruits from the South are as readily to be had here as in Florida. The fact is, Chester shares all the advantages in the way of edibles that do Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia or New York. There are no hindrances to the comfort of the workingman and nothing in the way of supplying the necessities and luxuries of his home at less cost than can be had in other places.

So many markets and such great variety to meet our needs in the line of table supplies are what makes Chester less costly to live in than most places. It is here that the consumer has every opportunity to save in cost of living by buying in large quantities. Another saving feature is to pay as you go and thus avoid unnecessary purchases. The workmen and women here have largely reached the stage of paying cash and accepting credit only when absolutely necessary. They are not much gifted to useless extravagance, preferring to be content with the necessities of life and such pleasures they can afford, rather than waste money on shams and false appearances.



In the Dried Beef Department

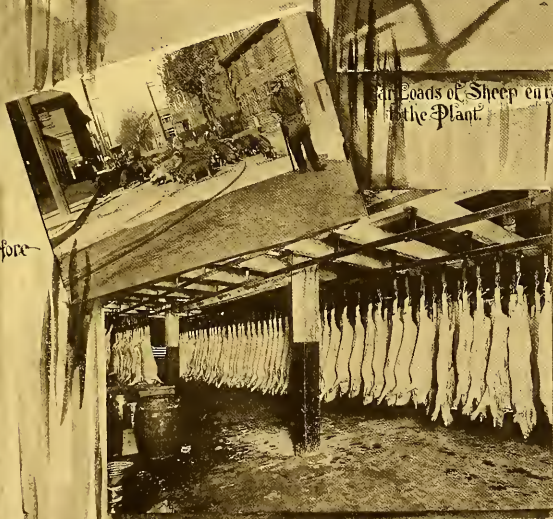


A Finester on its way to Slaughter



Full Loads of Sheep enroute to the Plant

Before



After

The John J. Buckley Company, Inc.
An extensive local Industry which has been a
great benefit to Chester

MANUFACTURE



NO CITY of its size has gained more publicity the world over as a manufacturing center than Chester. This is largely due to the fact that here were built ships of war, merchant and passenger vessels, that are now traversing the high seas in all parts of the world. Here, too, the products of iron and steel, spindle and loom, have found a ready market throughout the United States and foreign countries. A century or more of uninterrupted industrial activity has won honor and fame for the oldest city in Pennsylvania. Unsurpassed transportation facilities, by rail and water, places commercial Chester in the foreground in respect to progress and trade. Here has been solved successfully the force of water and steam, the spasms of electricity, the brilliancy of gas, the ductability of metals, the refining of oil, the production of silk. Indeed, the speed of the locomotive, the power of the stationary engine, the construction of ships, the fabric of the loom, the casting of steel, the printing of cloth, the making of paper, the molding and burning of brick, the calcining of gypsum, and dyewood extracts, have all been brought to the highest state of perfection in this city.

The captains of industry of the past, as well as those of the present, all had obstacles to surmount. If we look back upon their footprints, see some of their many helps and hindrances, we cannot know of the silent inner struggles of their lives, or the windings of their pathways. With few exceptions, the industries of years ago in Chester were successful and those of to-day are prosperous. Genius and thrift, combined with wide-awake, intelligent, observation of the markets; executive precaution in the handling of labor and the wise expenditure of money contributed largely to the success of these enterprises.

There is plenty of work and plenty of room for employer and employe here. What the past has left undone, the future will accomplish. There is no better field for progress, and it is the belief of those who are capable of knowing, that Chester is just entering a new era of prosperity.

At this time there are about 150 industries, large and small, in Chester and its immediate vicinity, representing an investment in the neighborhood of \$75,000,000. They give employment to a vast army of employes, variously estimated between 10,000 and 12,000 men, women and children. The wages paid are between \$8,000,000 and \$10,000,000 annually.

There is every indication that Chester will continue to develop as an industrial center and a good place to live. It is a city of steam-hammer, forge, pulley, crank-shaft, tooth-wheel, steel furnace, loom and spindle, and values are shining everywhere.

The many and extensive manufacturing plants along the Delaware river and the railroads are certain to grow in size each year, until Chester becomes a veritable bee hive of industry, with three times its

present population and an enlarged area, in keeping with a proposed "Greater Chester," as indicated on the map expressly prepared and bound in the back of this volume. Chester has a right, indeed, to rejoice at its own success and the triumph of its many achievements.

Although Chester has some of the largest plants known to the country, it also invites small factories. Not a few of the smaller industries have cast their lot with us of late. There is ample room for more and every inducement is held out to all in search of a well-balanced industrial center.



Section of Casing for 10000 H.P. Turbine
made by American Steel Foundries - Chester



Geo. C. Hetzel Co. Plant

A steady and Good Wage Paying Industry
Woolens, and Worsted Cloth

The American Viscose Company Plant

As seen at Long Range

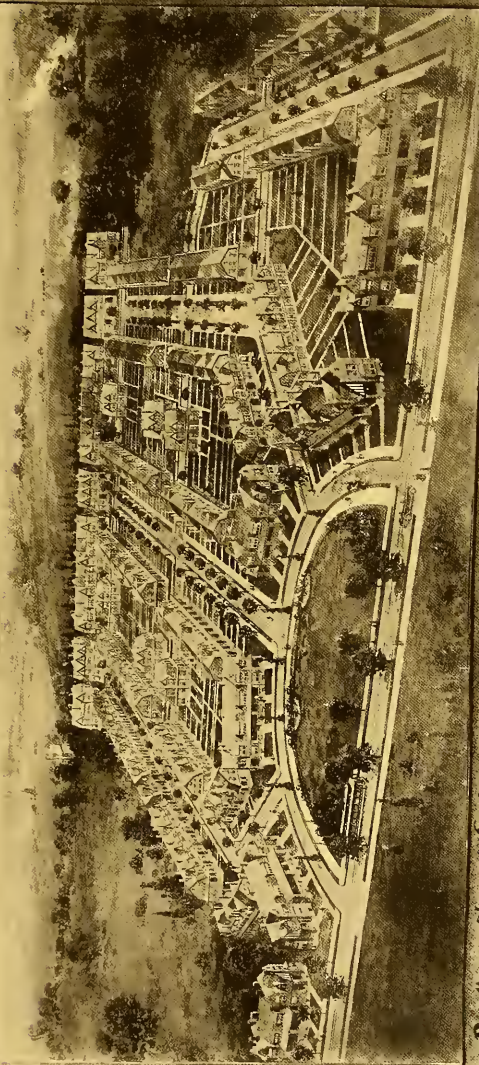
Employs 2000 Hands in the Manufacture of Artificial Silk,
and Plans to Double its Present Capacity by Additional
Buildings & Machinery



Where Dinner is Served to the Men
at Little Cost



The Swimming Pool. One of many Recreation Features
Enjoyed by the Employees



Bird's-eye View of the American Viscose Company Industrial Village which is situated directly opposite the Plant at Marcus Hook
 Designed, and Constructed under the Supervision of Ballinger Perrot, Architects Engineers Phila.
 by

LABOR



WHILE the population of Chester proper does not, perhaps, exceed 40,000, that amount is increased fifty per cent. by the adjoining boroughs, whose interests with Chester are closely interwoven. A glance at the industrial life in and about Chester convinces one that no line can be drawn between districts from the viewpoint of labor, the manufacturer's needs and commercial requirements. Both steam and electric railways make intercommunication easy. People living in Chester are in many cases employed in industries or places of business in the adjoining boroughs, and even in Philadelphia. On the other hand, persons living in near-by places, or as far away as the "Quaker City," find being employed here advantageous.

The number of people employed in Chester and the immediate boroughs is approximately, at this time, 10,000, and the greater portion of the number are American born. Chester, however, has its share of foreigners, such as Italians, Polish and Russian Jews; while twenty per cent. of the city's population is colored. In some sections of the city the foreigners have colonized, to some degree, each nationality keeping pretty much separated from others. In a large number of cases they have acquired property, mostly in the older districts of the city. There seems to be plenty of employment for both male and female foreign help. They soon take to the ways and customs of American life and, in the main, become useful citizens. Their social life has features not altogether in keeping with our laws and customs. Showy weddings and christenings are hobbies of all foreign newcomers of the nationalities referred to. It might be said that these gatherings assume proportions of a *big noise*, and it matters not if it be Sunday or Monday, excess privileges are expected to be enjoyed just the same.

As to the colored population, the number does not seem to have increased to any extent for some years. Not enough of the colored people have steady employment to make them self-sustaining. The women mostly do laundering and house cleaning, while many of the men find employment in some of the industries of the city.

Some serious attention should be given to the negro question in Chester. Every advantage in the line of school education is afforded the children, but not enough attention is given to the negro to lift him into channels which might serve to broaden the opportunity to earn a living. Elections do not come often enough to make the negro so independent as to invite idleness between contests. The result too often is that he becomes a burden to himself and the community, and not infrequently a menace to society. Altogether, the outlook for the colored race in Chester, is not very promising. The lack of responsibility, and an adverse disposition to advance, places most of the negro population of Chester in a somewhat helpless state, to say the least.

Chester, however, has plenty of skilled labor, and there is room for more. The iron and steel, and textile industries, as well as the many other diversified lines of manufacture, afford means of employment at good wages for all who want work. No well disposed workman need be idle for any great length of time in Chester. The same may be said of the working women.

Union Paving Co., 30th & Locust Sts Philadelphia



Union Company's

Chester Plant

Putting down the Concrete Base

A Good Mixer



Laying the Top Dressing



Street paved with Libberme

Chester is the best paved City in Pennsylvania. Over 300,000 Square yards of Telford Pavement laid by the Union Paving Company in the last three years

SUBURBAN IDEALS



THE suburban districts that surround Chester on the east, north and west (the city is bounded on the south by the Delaware river) are indeed ideal for living. The suburbs of Chester are full of appreciation of natural outdoor life. The country seat, cottage and bungalow stand so near the city as to be only a matter of a few minutes' ride by train or trolley to the shop or place of business. Recreation of some kind is absolutely necessary to the health of the human body and mind. In summer you may prefer to walk along the running streams that wind their way through the rural districts, away from the congregations of humanity, to be alone, or almost so. Everyone desires at some time to be alone with nature, to study her moods, delight in her sequestered spots of beauty, dressed and guided only by her lavish hand.

Picture yourself standing on some hill brow, enraptured with the magnificent view of country, rivers, and woodland, extending miles in every direction; and again, in some narrow gully or ravine, of which one side may be a grassy slope, the other clothed with the trees of a woods, and where tiny but never-failing streams of spring water in the bottom keep the shrubs and plants that grow in profusion in full leaf and flower until late autumn, and you have some conception of Chester's suburban ideals.

In spring the opening buds and blossoming trees, the brightening lawns, the returning birds, the placing in the ground of vegetable seed, plants and flowers, all tell us that the season of promise is here.

In the summer everything seems to possess life and animation. One may see the birds skimming over the fields, or hear their voices in the trees and hedges the whole day long, or spend the day with rod and line along the many streams which afford pleasure and pastime to those who have patience and are gifted in the way of piscatorial art.

Autumn brings with it the crisp and chilly air that quickens your footsteps and brings a healthy complexion to the cheek. It also brings with it the beautiful and variegated foliage so abundant on the hills and in the valleys of Delaware county. Then it is that the birds flock together for their yearly tour South.

Even in the season of winter, Jack Frost and the storm king have no terrors for the suburbanites. The lakes and smaller streams are covered with ice, affording pleasure to the young of heart. There is at times snow enough to provide good sleighing; transportation by rail and trolley is seldom seriously interfered with and life goes merrily on. It is here that winter has beauties and attractions equal to the other seasons.

The several splendid city and suburban homes and grounds shown elsewhere in this book will convey, as well as plates can do, some idea of the beauties of Chester and its suburbs. Those who possess these

SOME RURAL VIEWS

The Rustic Bridge
near Duttons mill
on Chester River



Scene along Ridley River
looking towards
Livington



Spanning Ridley
River, a tributary of the
Delaware



Crum River
with Strath Haven
in the distance and Swarthmore Dam in the foreground



Sun Company Plant

Petroleum and its Products
shipped and exported to all parts of the World



Comprehensive
Views of a big plant.

The Sun Company's
own Fleet of Ships
loading for Foreign
Markets



estates are men who have made a success in life and who are now enjoying the fruits that come only from pure motive and the highest sense of duty to themselves, their fellowmen and the State. They are men whose motives and deeds make character and provision for the future that will stand the storms of temptation and reverses that beat up life's pathway. They are men of executive talent and power to manage well large enterprises; the power to handle men and facts; the power to carry a scheme or purpose or plan into immediate or telling effect; the power to "run things" generally, or make them "go."

Energy, perseverance and a strict attention to business brought them success and prosperity. Each one did not reach success by the same road, but they all possessed both interest in their business and perseverance to continue. They well knew that he who aims at nothing cannot reasonably expect to hit anything. They also learned that the objective point is the point to be made, the thing to be done.



Bird's Eye View of Plant and New Wharf

Crew Levick Company
Refiners of Oil
 The Mammoth Storage Tanks are filled with
Gasoline and Illuminating Oil

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENTS



CHESTER, in the past three years, has made creditable advancement in the line of public improvements. This is particularly true in the matter of newly paved streets. While the greater portion of street paving done in that time has been "Filbertine," a plastic pavement, that much resembles "Bitulithic" construction, much money was also expended in putting down wood blocks and other types of street paving. That the city received full return for the money expended is generally conceded. It is a truthful boast of Chester that it is to-day the best paved third-class city in Pennsylvania.

But well-paved streets are only one of the many requirements of a city that is advancing and has every advantage for growth and expansion. Streets once paved will not take care of themselves. They must be kept clean, and it is a well-known fact that they also wear out. To keep the streets clean and tidy requires system and money. Without the former we are very apt to have waste, and without the latter expended effort is of little consequence. Good system and little money is better, however, than much money and no system.

To inaugurate and carry out a perfect system means to have the confidence and co-operation of the public. Without such a combination, the result will be failure, indeed.

During the past administration the Street Department has done well, considering the handicaps that confronted it. Not near enough money was available to keep the streets in proper order. When the street commissioner had exhausted his skill and allowance, and there seemed to be no other remedy, heavy rains not inopportunistically came to the rescue.

The more paved streets, the more cost in the up-keep of our thoroughfares. But the public can do much to lessen the burden of the Street Department by exercising care and thoughtfulness. Waste paper and other trash should never be allowed to find a lodging place on our streets or in the alleys of the city. It is all a matter of the proper system and right kind of education.

The new council, which represents practically the commission form of government, will have an opportunity to study the situation and solve a way out of the difficulty that was, perhaps, not possible under the old system of making and enforcing laws. As each councilman will be a department in himself and, in turn, be personally responsible to the public for the success or failure of his department, the best results are expected. It will take time, however, to formulate plans, study the needs of the city and then act.

The old form of thirty-three councilmen and a mayor did well, under the conditions that prevailed. It was the system, not the councilmen, that was wrong. Men devoting their time and service without pay are not expected to accomplish as much good as men under fair salary. Then, too, "what is everybody's business, is nobody's business." In other words, there was no way by which to fasten responsibility on anyone under the old rule of government. Now it is different, and better results should follow.

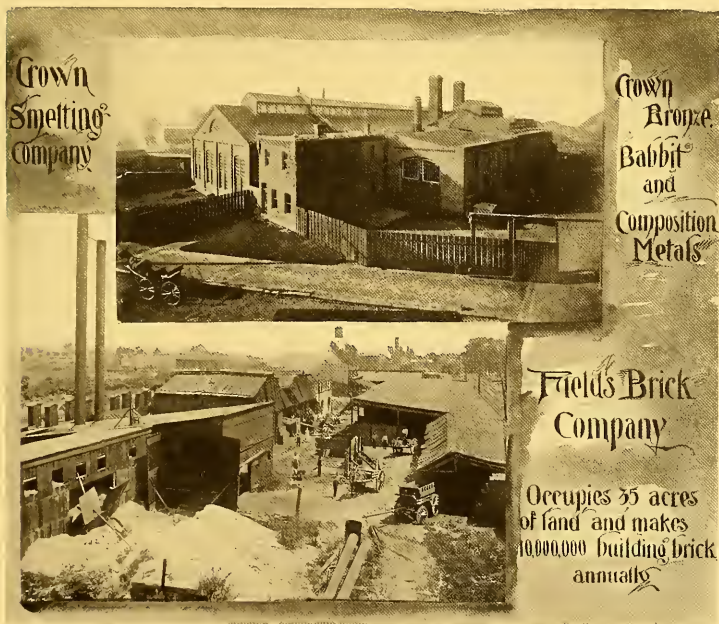
While Chester is destined to forge ahead in rapid order, the muni-

cipal authorities can do much to hasten or retard its growth. A too penurious policy is worse than extravagance. By the former we are likely to get nothing; by the latter, surely something for the good of the community. A middle-in-the-road policy is, after all, the best one to adopt.

It is a foregone conclusion that the new council will not be in position to advance the city along the lines of public improvements to the extent that the councils lately retired, did. The duty of carrying out unfinished contracts is a legacy left to the new council by the old. This applies to further street improvements. But the new council can do much in planning for Chester's future, the benefits of which may not be apparent during the two years of its official life.

Steam, as it rushes out of the exhaust pipes, makes a great noise and whizzing, but it accomplishes nothing. It is only when the mighty power is rightly confined and applied that it puts in motion the arms of the ponderous engine. The same truth holds good as regards the management of a city and the developing of its resources. The doing of the right thing at the right time is what counts.

There is something more to be done besides kindling fires and generating steam in a growing industrial center, and success comes to the municipality whose officials exercise the kind of tact that makes each act and deed tell for good.



Crown Smelting Company

Crown Bronze, Babbitt and Composition Metals

Fields Brick Company

Occupies 35 acres of land and makes 10,000,000 building brick annually

MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT



CHESTER, like other municipalities that have progressed through a long period of years in upbuilding, has experienced occasional "knocks" against the city's public servants for alleged misconduct. It may be conceded that Chester, like other municipalities, has made mistakes. But these instances have been isolated—few and far between. For close observers of Chester's municipal conduct—politicians, newspapermen and others in position to carefully note official doings—in summing up long years of this city's official oversight, bear witness that honesty and general efficiency have been the rule, and as a result there are few American municipalities that can boast of a healthier financial and general condition than is that of Chester to-day.

Some three years ago Chester had a total net indebtedness of a little more than \$400,000 and it was then determined, by popular vote, to increase the city's bonded liability by \$600,000, with which sum great improvements in paving, sewerage, wharfage, etc., could be accomplished in one momentous advance. The result of this wise move is shown in the city having, compared to population, more miles of well-paved streets than any other municipality in the State of Pennsylvania, and which fact causes the citizens of this community to point with pride to their home city.

Chester's bonded debt, at the last annual report of the City Treasurer in April, 1913, was \$1,201,000, less \$207,871.31 held in reserve in the several sinking funds to meet maturing obligations. Considering that the assessed valuation of the city is only \$19,183,402—conceded by property owners much lower than is fair to the municipality—and that the tax rate is only five and one-quarter mills for general purposes, with four and one-quarter mills to provide for maturing bonds (or a total of ten mills), it may be noted that Chester as a corporate city is financially not overburdened. Particularly is this recognized when it is taken into consideration that with a population of 40,000 the per capita debt of Chester is only about \$25, or far below that of the average municipality in this country.

Taken as a whole, therefore, and viewing the municipal management of Chester through a long vista of years, it is conceded by all intelligent and well-informed citizens that the city can feel proud of the great work that has been accomplished for this "best town on earth," as it has been termed, and reflect with satisfaction over the integrity that has been manifested by the city's trusted officials—with rare exceptions—in the management of the city.

On the first Monday of December, 1913, in pursuance of a new Legislative enactment, Chester entered upon a system of commission government, vested in five Councilmen, one of whom acts as Mayor. It is believed this method of administration, with five instead of the

past rule of thirty-three Councilmen, will provide for a more concrete form of municipal management, a better business form, be more accessible to the general public, and provide municipal betterments in many ways.



CHURCHES



HERE are in the neighborhood of fifty churches or places of worship in the district comprising Chester, representing a variety of denominations in keeping with other places. Many of the edifices are beautiful and costly in exterior and interior architecture. Our churches have a wholesome influence over the morals of the community and are open to the cry of the needy, no matter whether the need be spiritual or temporal. Civic righteousness and religious training go hand in hand, though there be differences of opinion. While society has its bubbles here, so business circles have their bubbles and religion its bubbles,—for life is full of bubbles,—but their fate is the fate of the bubble in the air; they float easily and lightly, sparkle very beautifully in the sunlight for a moment, then burst and are forgotten.

Religion has no foundation in fact, unless it is based on truth. The gospel preached here is the same as that expounded in other places, and the duty of spreading a knowledge of its saving truths is as incumbent upon our ministerial friends in Chester, who believe in its efficacy to raise up and save fallen souls, as it was upon the early apostles who preached it two thousand years ago.

There is a business side to all forms of religion, that is, those undertakings having for their purposes the preservation and propagation of the principles for which religion stands. Its chief mission, however, is to teach the gospel, which in reality is based on the common brotherhood of man, and through which doctrine alone the soul of man is reached.

In respect to religion, Chester is no exception to other well regulated communities. Its power for good is the same as in other places and the people contribute liberally toward its support and maintenance.

Madison Street M.E. Church

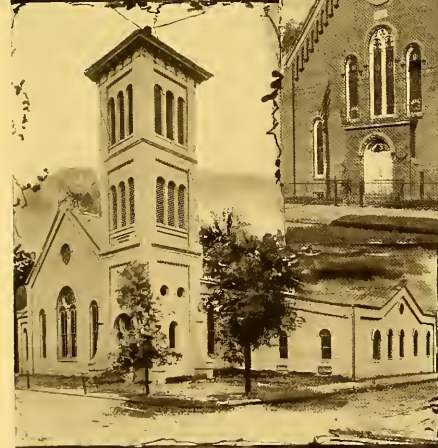




St. Paul's P.E. Church



First Baptist Church



First Presbyterian Church



Trinity M.E. Church



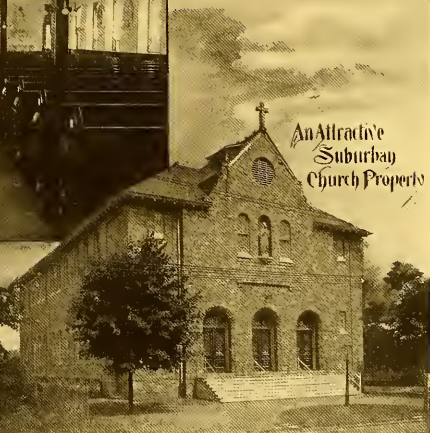
Church of the Immaculate Heart



St. Michael's



A Young Parish
in a Growing District



An Attractive
Suburban
Church Property

St. Rose of Lima's Church
Eddystone



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE AS WELL AS THE PRESENT



HE residents of Chester may well be proud of the place in which they live, and they live in a manner that makes Chester justly proud of its residents. The city will stand by anybody whose stand is right. Wrongdoing is not tolerated. Our citizenship will not stand for that. Every man gets a square deal here. We make every stranger feel at home and welcome competitors in all lines, for there is room enough for all.

A man here, whether rich or poor, in high station or low, will always, if indeed a man, have the power to be happy. Our people may wear out in working, but they dread to rust out in idling. We believe that when you have anything to do, do it. There is much doing in Chester.

The future growth and development of Chester will depend to a great extent on the co-operation and active work of its progressive citizens. Our city has developed as the grain in the field develops, and not as the mushroom grows. We are solving problems for the betterment of the city every day. The community is fast developing better housing conditions, so as to make Chester a more attractive and desirable place of residence for those whose hands and brains must co-operate in industry. We are working along the line of that which is best for all is best for the individual. We do not believe in working for the good of a few at the expense of many. Industry and civic betterment go hand in hand. We are building for the future as well as the present and shall strive to make our city beautiful as well as large.

PARKS



HE public parks of Chester are attractive recreation spots. True, not enough money has been available in the past to beautify them as they should be. Yet our residents get much enjoyment out of these breathing places. The two larger parks—Chester and Crozer—are situated in the outskirts of the city and are not as well patronized as would be the case were they more centrally located. Thurlow Park, in the west end, affords much pleasure to the people in that part of the city, because of it being so advantageously situated. It is here that the workingmen and women largely congregate, particularly after a day of toil in the heat of summer.

The late Alfred O. Deshong, however, was mindful of Chester's needs. In his will, he bequeathed his handsome estate to be used by the people of Chester as a park and art gallery. The legacy is known as the "Alfred O. Deshong Memorial," is controlled by a board of trustees, and consists of spacious and well-laid-out grounds in the central part of the city, besides a most valuable art collection, as indicated in several plates in this book.

Chester Park

Comprising
40 Acres of Playgrounds
Woodland & Water



At the Falls



The Sparkling
Spring



Boating on Ridley River



Great Expectations



A Restful Scene

In Crozer Park

A most Restful
Romantic Spot
As Gift of the Late
Samuel A. Crozer



Banks of Chester River



Mutual
Admiration



Looking
towards Upland

BANKS AND FINANCE



THE fact that there never has been a failure of any national bank or trust company in Chester speaks well for the financial soundness of our banking institutions. The officers representing the Chester banking houses are all men of the best character, who have taken every precaution to protect the interest of stockholders and safeguard the money entrusted to them. There are four national banks and two trust companies, having a combined capital of \$1,400,000, deposits amounting to \$7,458,500, and a surplus of \$1,525,250. This in itself is sufficient guarantee to insure safety for and confidence in the banks and trust companies of Chester.

When, in 1910, a \$600,000 city improvement loan was floated, the most recently organized trust company of the two doing business here showed its confidence in the financial standing of Chester and the movement to improve the municipality by underwriting the entire loan at a handsome premium to the city.

Safe and legitimate undertakings are supported by the banks of Chester, and every reasonable borrowing need of the merchant, manufacturer or investor is served.

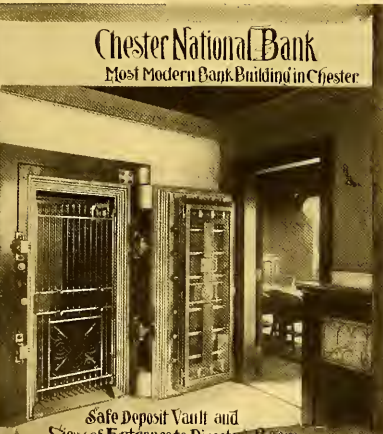
The Chester clearing-house answers as a most valuable adjunct to the banks in many ways. The sums each day due by and to the banks among themselves are here set off against each other and the balance paid or received. The clearing-house system also affords an opportunity for consultation on matters of common interest to the banking institutions and serves as a bulwark of strength in times of need.



Capital \$300,000 Surplus \$225,000

Directors

*Frank Black, Richard Vetherill,
Geo. B. Lindsay, H. Houston, Wm. B. Harvey,
Geo. Chetzel, Wm. S. Blakeley,
Joseph Deering, H. Van H. Sloover*



Chester National Bank
Most Modern Bank Building in Chester

Safe Deposit Vault and
View of Entrance to Director's Room



Cambridge Trust Company

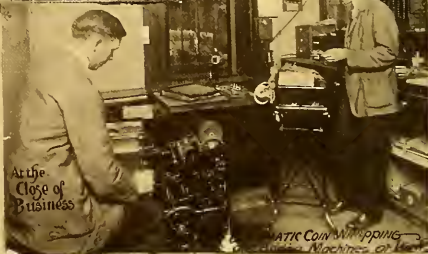
Comparative Deposits

November 1901 - \$52,088.77
 November 1905 - 489,466.95
 November 1909 - 974,550.45
 November 1913 - 1,704,974.27

Main Banking Department



Real Estate and Trust Department

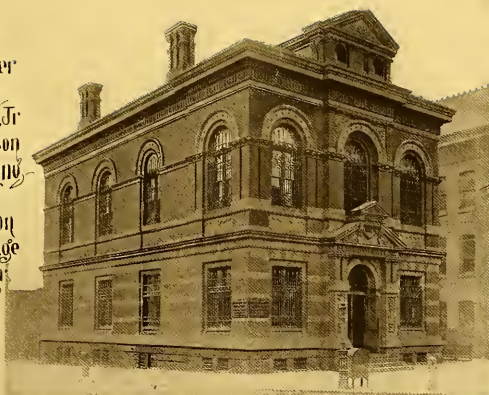


At the
Close of
Business

MATIC COIN SHIPPING
Machines of Bank

Directors

John P Crozer
J H Roop
J M Broomall Jr
O B Dickinson
Geo M Bunting
W H Sproul
W P Simpson
Louis R Page
Wm L Shaffer
W C Sproul
C Deshong



President
J H Roop

Cashier
F M Hamilton

The Delaware County National Bank

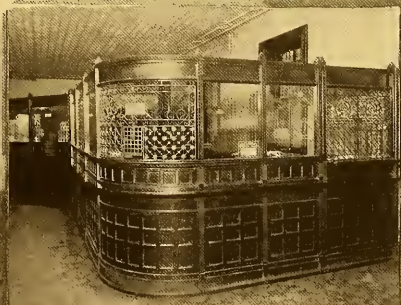
Chester Pa

Capital	\$500,000
Surplus	700,000
Profits	1000,000

Pennsylvania National Bank

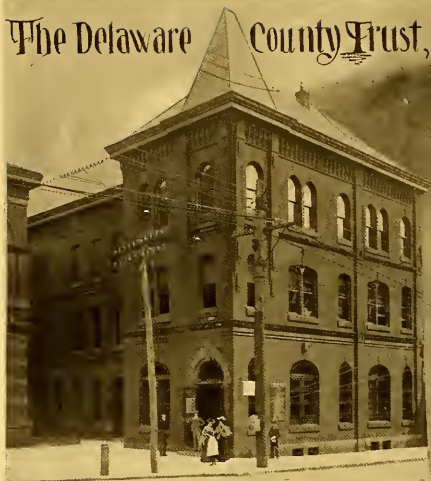
A Safe and Growing Financial Institution

Capital and Surplus \$170,000 Organized 1905



Savings Department. Pays 3 1/2% Interest on Deposits

The Delaware County Trust, Safe Deposit and



Title Insurance Company

Capital and Surplus
440,000.00

Deposits 2,200,000.00

Officers

James A. G. Campbell, Pres.

John Chinkson, Vice President
T. E. Joffe, Secy and Treas.
George A. Sandeman, Title Officer
John B. Mowry, Assistant Treas.
Wm. K. Foly, Assistant Secretary
Oliver B. Dickinson, Solicitor

Directors.

James A. G. Campbell
John Caldwell Jinkson.
Wm. C. Spraul John R. Crozer
D. Edwin Irving Wm W. Macfarlane
Hugh McGeffer Wm I. Shaffer
Louis R. Page Walter S. Bickley

Commercial and Savings Accounts solicited
Trusts of every description executed

Title Insurance

Elog Cabin

at Harrison's Mill
erected 1903, where
W. B. Chadwick, Supt
New Chester Water Company.



Lives with his Family
"Close to Nature" from
May to November
each year



A Cozy Living Room



The Dining Room

CLUBS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS



HE social life of Chester is in keeping with all its other good points. As for clubs and societies there is no scarcity, be they purely social, political, fraternal, secret or religious. Among the ladies' organizations of a somewhat public character, may be mentioned the New Century Club and Young Women's Christian Association. There are other minor clubs and societies controlled by women, but the two above named claim much attention from the fair sex. As to men's organizations, there seems to be no limit. Almost every "Grand" lodge, society or fraternal body in the country has a branch at Chester. Among them may be mentioned: Elks, Eagles, Moose, Red Men, Knights of Pythias, Masonic, Odd Fellows, Woodmen, American Mechanics, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Benevolent Legion, American Catholic Union, Ancient Order of Hibernians, and scores of others.

The Penn Club, composed of professional and business men and manufacturers, has a centrally located clubhouse, which provides pleasure and recreation for its members and strangers coming to the city.

A recently organized club, which has attractions not to be had in all other cities, is the Chester Club. Its aim is to provide home-like accommodation to its members and their friends. This is chiefly accomplished by the kind of meals served and the features of pleasure and amusement in the nature of games and other pastimes.

Chester has also a Board of Trade, Chamber of Commerce, and what is known as the Civic Advancement Commission, all three organizations working for the betterment of the city.

The Chester Free Library and West End Library both serve also a useful purpose in the community and are well patronized.





Eagle's Nest



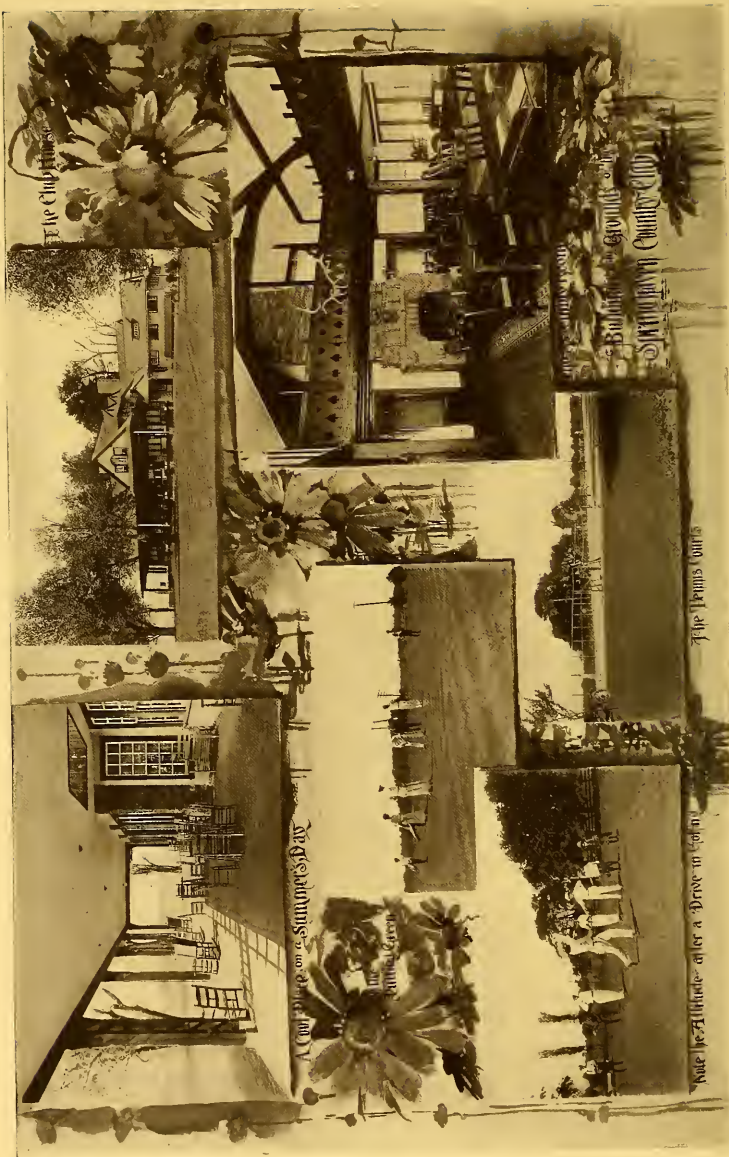
Some of Our
Fraternal
Orders

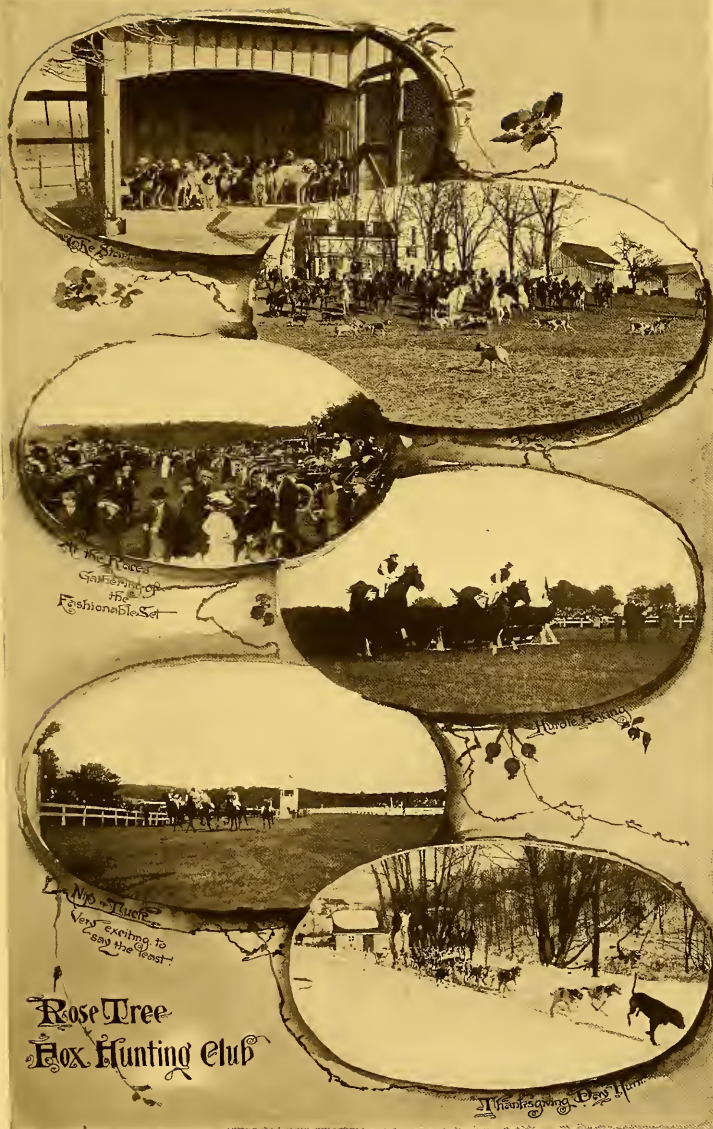


"Knights of Columbus
Rooms
Their Own House"



Temple
of
Eles





SCHOOLS AND PLAYGROUNDS



IF there is any one thing for which Chester is entitled to credit more than anything else, it is its valuable and attractive public schools and the excellence of the teaching force. Let it be said to the credit of the city that such school buildings as the Chester High, Larkin Grammar, and Franklin, are not excelled in many cities of the country. The combined valuation of public school property in Chester is placed at \$1,000,000. It is the fact that so much return has been had for the money expended that calls for special comment. The total enrollment for the year 1913 was approximately 5250 pupils, and the cost in the neighborhood of \$30 per pupil.

A brief description of the more important school buildings will not be out of place. The Chester High School is a structure of architectural beauty, is modernly equipped, and cost \$175,000 complete. It is a massive granite stone edifice, surrounded by a large area of ground and is classed as the foremost building in the city.

Next in order is the new Franklin School, built last year, and which cost close to \$100,000 for construction and equipment. It is the pride of the Chester school district, because in this building is taught manual training and domestic science, besides the usual classes. Its need has long been felt in the community. Chester, being a city comprised chiefly of the working classes, the introduction of the new educational features will redound to the lasting credit of the school directors, who, of their own volition, brought about this valuable addition to the public school property, and caused to be introduced the special courses of training, so very much needed by the boys and girls of Chester.

The Larkin Grammar School is of gray granite, a model building, and cost \$90,000 to erect and equip. In addition to the above, there are twenty-one public schools throughout the city, all of them being maintained on a high order.

Playgrounds for the children are provided in different parts of the city, all of them on public school property. They are conducted under the direction of the Chester Playground Association, composed of public-spirited men and women of the city, aided by the school authorities and the general public. Each year brings with it new playgrounds and more amusement features, and the pleasures and benefits derived from them by the children of the city cannot easily be estimated.

There are three Catholic parochial schools, with close to 1000 pupils, under the care of sisters of several orders. These schools are also kept up to a high standard of excellence, both as to secular and religious training. Pupils in the parochial schools here are prepared for the Chester High School and Catholic High Schools of Philadelphia.

Altogether, the educational needs of Chester's rising generation are exceptionally well looked after. One more advantage, however, could well be afforded those whose education has been neglected because of circumstances beyond the control of the school authorities, that is, a system of night schools for the young men and young women who were forced to go to work at an early age.



Larkin Grammar School



Chester High School

The Franklin Public School

Completed Sept. 1, 1913.



Concord Avenue Front



Franklin Street Front.

The Franklin School



Where Domestic Science is taught



In the Auditorium



In the Manual Training Department

A Group of some of Chester's Public Schools



- 1 Graham
- 2 Lincoln
- 3 Clayton
- 4 Horace Mann-Dewey
- 5 Garfield





Playgrounds
of Chester Schools

PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL FEATURES



ESIDES the extensive public school system and the advantages afforded by the several parochial schools, Chester has a number of private educational institutions of widespread distinction, such as Swarthmore College, the Pennsylvania Military College, Crozer Theological Seminary, Sleeper's College, and other minor schools. There are men and women all over this broad land who can attest to the efficiency of our institutions of learning, many having climbed the ladder of success because of the training received here in the days of their youth.

How to get on in life, and secure a competency, is the great struggle of the masses. Old proverbs abound purporting to make the matter as "clear as the road to mill," yet very often they come as wide as possible from the mark. A man may "rise with the lark" and "work like a beaver," and take "care of the pennies," yet never have the dollars to take care of. He may, by dint of scraping and saving and pinching, until life becomes as dry as a chip, amass a little



hoard, which is worse than poverty compared to noble manhood. It is not these things that bring ease and contentment in life. The best capital for success a



Entrance to Crozer Theological Seminary



Pennsylvania Military College

man can have is being the right man in the right place.

Then, too, book learning is only one method of education. In reality, it is but the foundation for greater things. Practical experience, tact and perseverance are as necessary with the preacher as with the shoemaker.



Swarthmore College
"Parrish Hall"

On the Hills of Delaware County overlooking Chester.



Sprout Telescope
One of the largest Astronomical Instruments in the East.

PHILANTHROPIC WORK



CHESTER has its charitably disposed people, like other places. In the line of philanthropy, no community of like proportion has been more considered by the well-to-do class than has this city. The Chester Hospital and the Crozer Hospital and Home for Incurables—the latter two institutions being alone supported by a lady philanthropist, and the former partly by State aid and local charity—care for the sick and injured under the most efficient management and skill.

A recent Y. M. C. A. campaign lifted the association out of debt and provided enough money to establish a Y. W. C. A. in Chester. The lady philanthropist above referred to was the largest contributor towards both associations. Ninety thousand dollars was raised in six days in the early part of November last, for Christian association purposes.

In public and private, Chester people are ever ready to do their full share in charity, be it helping along the work of religious and charitable societies, supporting an educational cause or responding to the appeals from stricken communities far away.

THE PRESS



THE standing of a city, its values and attractions, are based, as a rule, on the attitude of the people toward the government and that which is vital to the public welfare. In this connection, it is the press of the community that plays the most important part in molding public opinion. It can serve as an educator of the people, and can also be used with demoralizing effect.

The press of Chester has aimed to serve the city and its surroundings to the best interest of the people. Its influence has always been for good and its power never abused. Prejudice is never allowed to sway the columns of our papers in anything that bears on Chester's advancement or progress. Both the two dailies and the several weeklies that are published here encourage, in every way possible, that which is best for the government and best for the people.

The columns of the papers are freely lent to exploit projects of interest to the community, and no worthy or deserving cause is permitted to fall because of any indifference on the part of the press.



Crozer Home for Incurables and Crozer Hospital.





Business Office



Registration Department



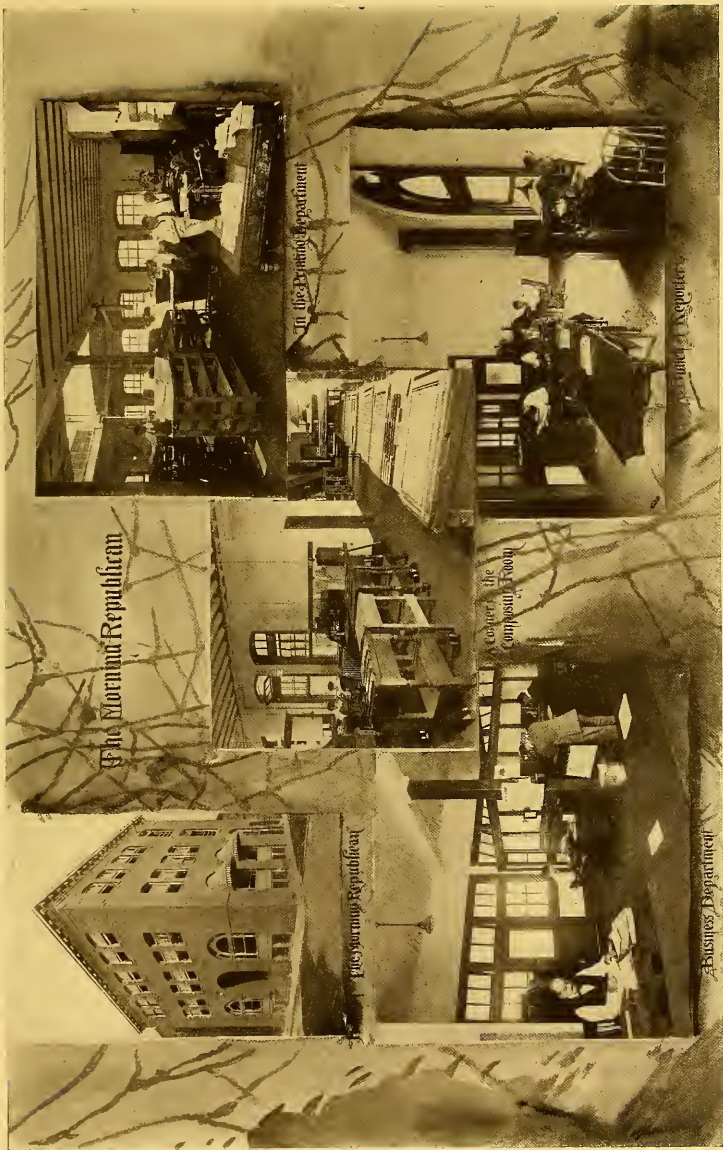
Composing Room



Big Press



Abesler Ginn's Print Shop
and Greening Paper





Home of
Hon. Crosby M. Black
Ex-Mayor and
Ex-State
Assemblyman

Home of Dr. J. L. Forwood
Four Times Elected
Mayor of Chester



Home of Elias R. Long
Manager Chester Times, and The Home of Dr. J. L. Forwood

Residence of
Frank Black
Noted Banker
and
Financier

W^m Freihofer tract which is to be developed on the Modern
Housing Plan during 1914. The most attractive piece of land for homes
in Chester

Entrance
to Freihofer tract



and Chester Park

The East Side
containing
about
30 Acres



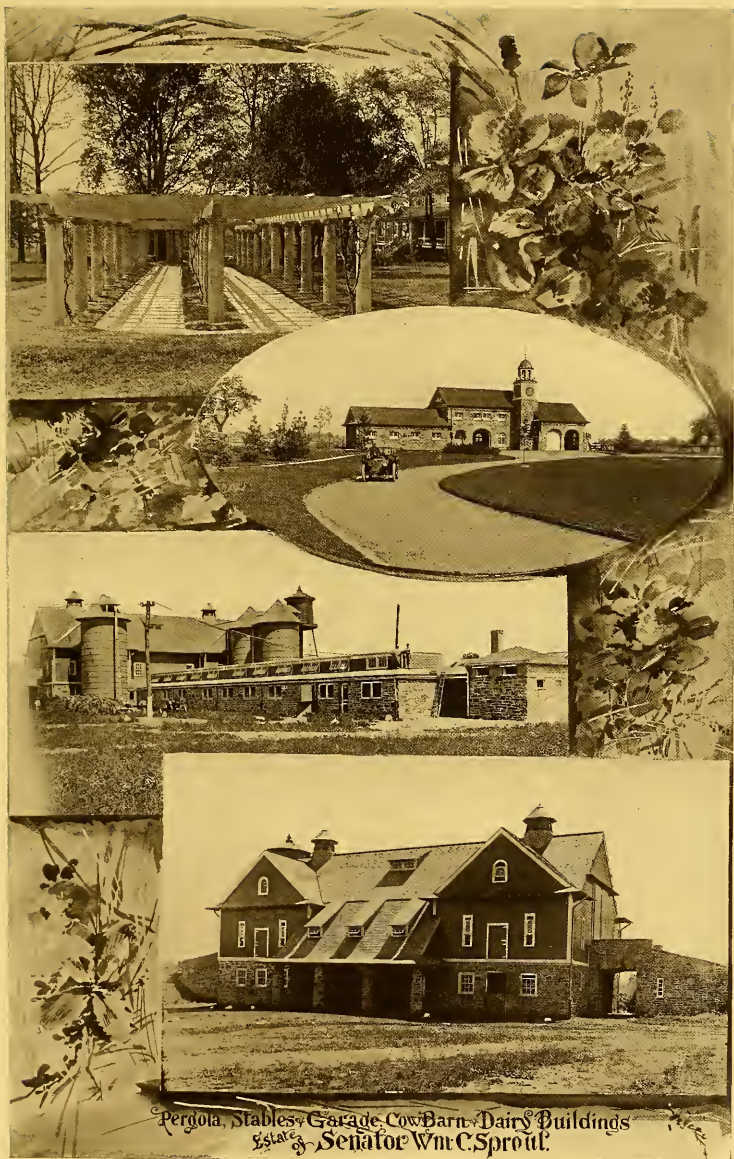
A Level Tract of 30 Acres looking West



Boulevard
leading to
the Park
and which
divides the
property



House and Grounds of
Senator Wm. C. Sproul





Residence
and Grounds
of
Robert Wetherill





Residence of Richard Wetherill
and portion of lawn







Residence
and
Grounds
of
John P. Crozer



Beautiful
Floral Effect
by way of the
winding path



The Dairy Farm Buildings

"Schoenhaus"
 Home and
 Grounds of
 Chas. T. Schoen
 Inventor and
 Capitalist



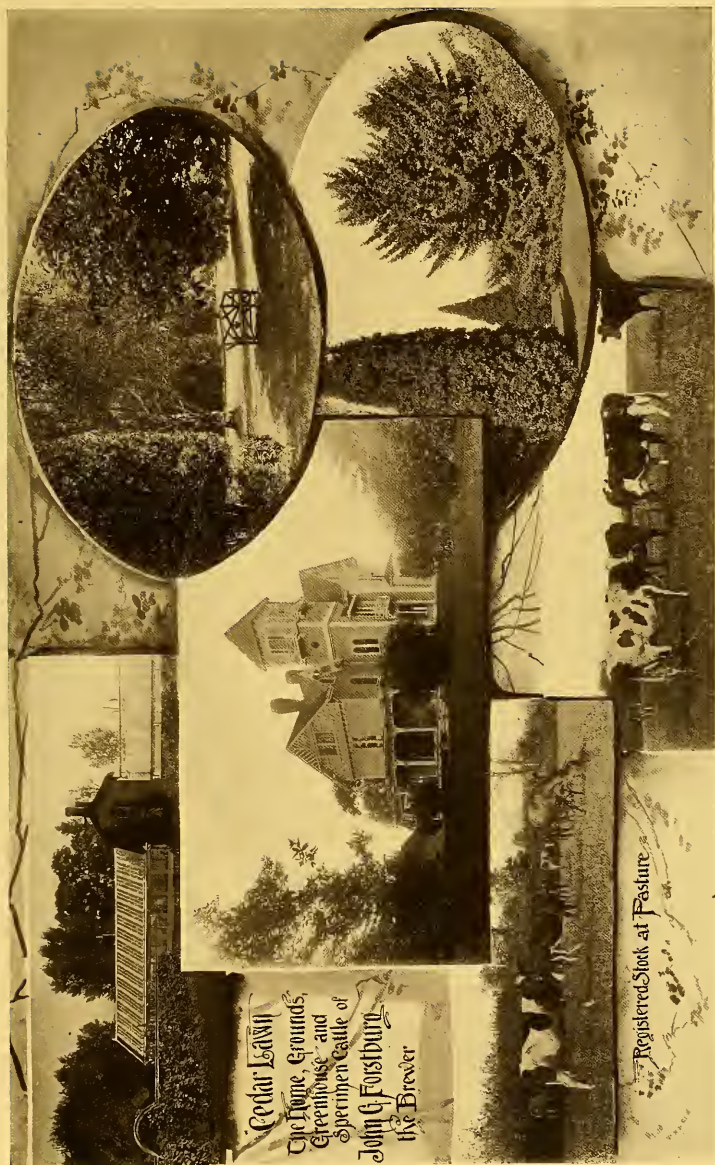
Office of
 Schoen-Jackson
 Company

at
 Rose
 Valley

A Charming
 Little Lake



Pergola and
 Observatory





Country Place of Ex-District Attorney Josiah Smith



Residence of Hon. Wm. D. Broomall
Additional Law Judge of Delaware County

A Romantic Spot
on Ridley River &



Home of W^m I Schaffer



Baldt
Property



Roach
Mansion



Sproul
Homestead



Colonnade
Hotel
Chas B. McCall
Prop.

City Hotel Chas J. Reilly
Prop.

Rates \$2.00 per day

Dining Room

Rates European
Plan \$1.00
American Plan
\$1.50 and \$2.00 per
day

View of the
Grill Room
Washington
House

Washington House

Rates \$2.10 - \$3.00
per day

Wm J. Band Jr. Prop.

Old and Historic yet Modern in Service and Appointments

Plant of the
Chester
Brewing Co

MPANY



Storage Tanks



Barrel Cellar



Ready for Delivery



GOVERNMENT STATISTICS



HE Chester postal service is equal to that of any other third-class city in Pennsylvania. There are three deliveries each day throughout the city, and the rural mail service in the suburban sections, as well as the convenient post offices in the outlying districts, afford prompt delivery in the line of all mails, including the Parcel-Post service. In order to show the growth of the post-office receipts for Chester, which does not include the various fourth-class offices in the immediate suburban districts, the following statistics are of interest:

Receipts for the year ending June 30, 1880	\$16,909.15
“ “ “ “ “ “ 30, 1890	29,270.19
“ “ “ “ “ “ 30, 1900	46,137.42
“ “ “ “ “ “ 30, 1908	63,477.82
“ “ “ “ “ “ 30, 1913	79,037.63

During the year just past the Federal building was enlarged to twice its original size, in order to all the better take care of the rapidly increasing business.

The building, besides used as a post office, is also occupied as the headquarters for the Customs officials. It is here that the Collector of the Port has his office, where vessels enter and clear and duties are collected. In addition there is stationed here a naval officer and meat inspectors, under the direction of the United States Government.

Chester was first declared a Port of Entry by Act of Congress in 1912. It was not, however, until November 1, 1913, that the district was recognized in that capacity. The district extends from the Delaware state line on the west to Crum river on the east, and includes Gibson's Point, New Jersey. The Chester Collector of the Port is subject to the headquarters port at Philadelphia. He, however, makes all his reports direct to the Treasury Department at Washington.

The business done at the Port of Chester, from July 1, 1912, to June 30, 1913, was as follows:

Arrival of foreign vessels	112
Net tonnage	225,890
Value of cargoes in imports	\$1,801,099
Value of cargoes in exports	6,039,170

As stated elsewhere, logwood, fustic, mahogany, used as dyestuff; iron, magnesite and chrome ores; crude gypsum, and refined oil are the chief products imported to and exported from Chester.



Scenes and Incidents
34th Convention State
Firemen's Association
Chester, Sept. 5-10, 1913



U.S. - Illinois

One of Uncle Sam's
Fighting Squadron

Went to Chester for
Firemen's Convention
Week

Parade preceding
Franklin School
Flag Raising on
Labor Day



Delegates
Treated to
a Boat Ride
on the Delaware

Fulton

Franklin

The White Way

Haddon

Showing Chester at Night During
Firemen's Week 1913. Made so by the
Beacon Light & Power Co.
More than 15000 Extra Electric Lights illuminated the City

From Ninth Street
to Penna R.R.

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS



HESTER does not own any of its public service works.

While the city does not get all it should in the way of returns from some of these corporations, the fault is of long ago and not of to-day. As to water, electricity and gas, it is doubtful that, if any or all three of these works were owned by the municipality, better or cheaper service to the consumer would be the result. The quality of all three of these products, so necessary to city life, is of the best. State analysis shows that our drinking water is quite superior to most places and excelled by few. The city is lighted by electricity at a cost per candle power much lower than can be said of numerous cities throughout the State, and power, heat and light are furnished for manufacturing, business and home purposes, at most reasonable rates. What is true of the water and electric light and power service is also true of the gas service. Gas is pretty generally used for domestic purposes and in stores, for cooking, lighting and heating. The rates are low and the quality excellent.

In the matter of telephone and trolley railway services, there seems to be a wide difference of opinion as to whether the public is getting all it should. Competition in telephone lines has been productive of some good since the Independent Company, established some eighteen years ago, began business. Rates have been materially decreased and the number of telephones increased 1500 per cent. during that time. While telephone competition forced the giant monopoly that was first on the ground to reduce its rates, in most cases more than one-half, there has been a very noticeable advance in rates of late years, due, in a measure, to the public having to go back to the original company, because the new failed to keep pace with the requirements of a fast-developing district. However, the recent installation of a new and latest-improved system, in new and enlarged quarters, ensures to the public superior service from the Independent Company, and at rates more consistent and liberal than have been given for some time past by the company first to introduce the telephone here.

In this connection, a word might well be said relative to the numerous unsightly poles and wires that predominate on our main business and residential streets. An underground system, under the control of the city, is the only remedy that will give relief. The city could well afford to provide underground facilities, at no greater cost to the companies than the expense of maintaining the system. It is due to the fact that no amicable arrangement has ever been suggested, that Chester is so burdened with overhead construction.

That Chester is in need of, and should have, more and better service in the way of trolley railways, there is no question. No advancement in the transportation service of Chester has practically been made other than what was brought about by shifting from a horse-car system to that of electricity, in twenty-five years. True, two new competing lines have come into the city, but they are bottled up so much as to be of little benefit to Chester. We need more railways that will help develop the city and assist it to grow in the districts that are as yet undeveloped.



Where the Camera was as Quick as Lightning

Caught by our Staff Photographer of Chester



This One Photograph of him is as full of life as Niagara Falls is of brides & groom



CONTENTMENT

PUBLISHED EXPRESSLY
"CHESTER"
BY
H. V. SMITH
1914.

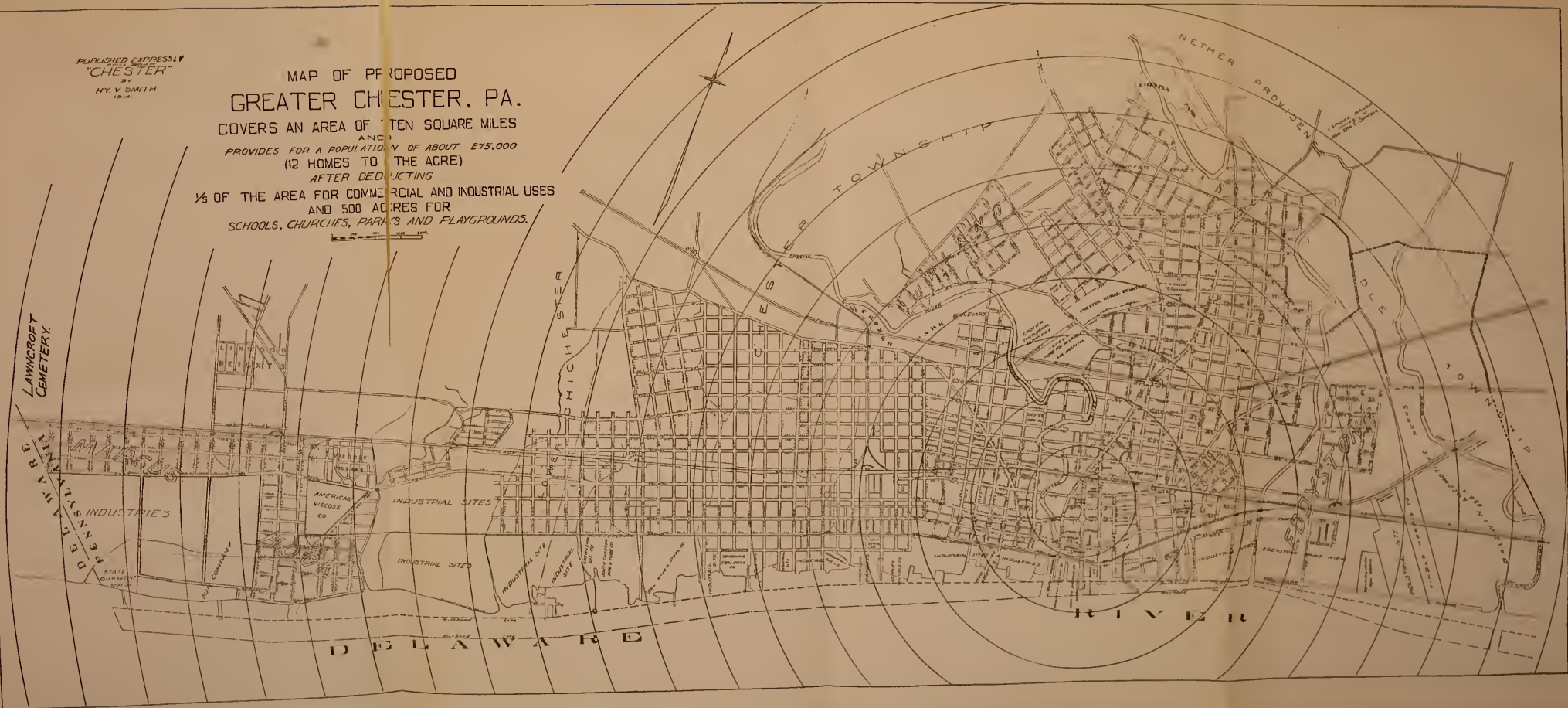
MAP OF PROPOSED GREATER CHESTER, PA.

COVERS AN AREA OF TEN SQUARE MILES
AND

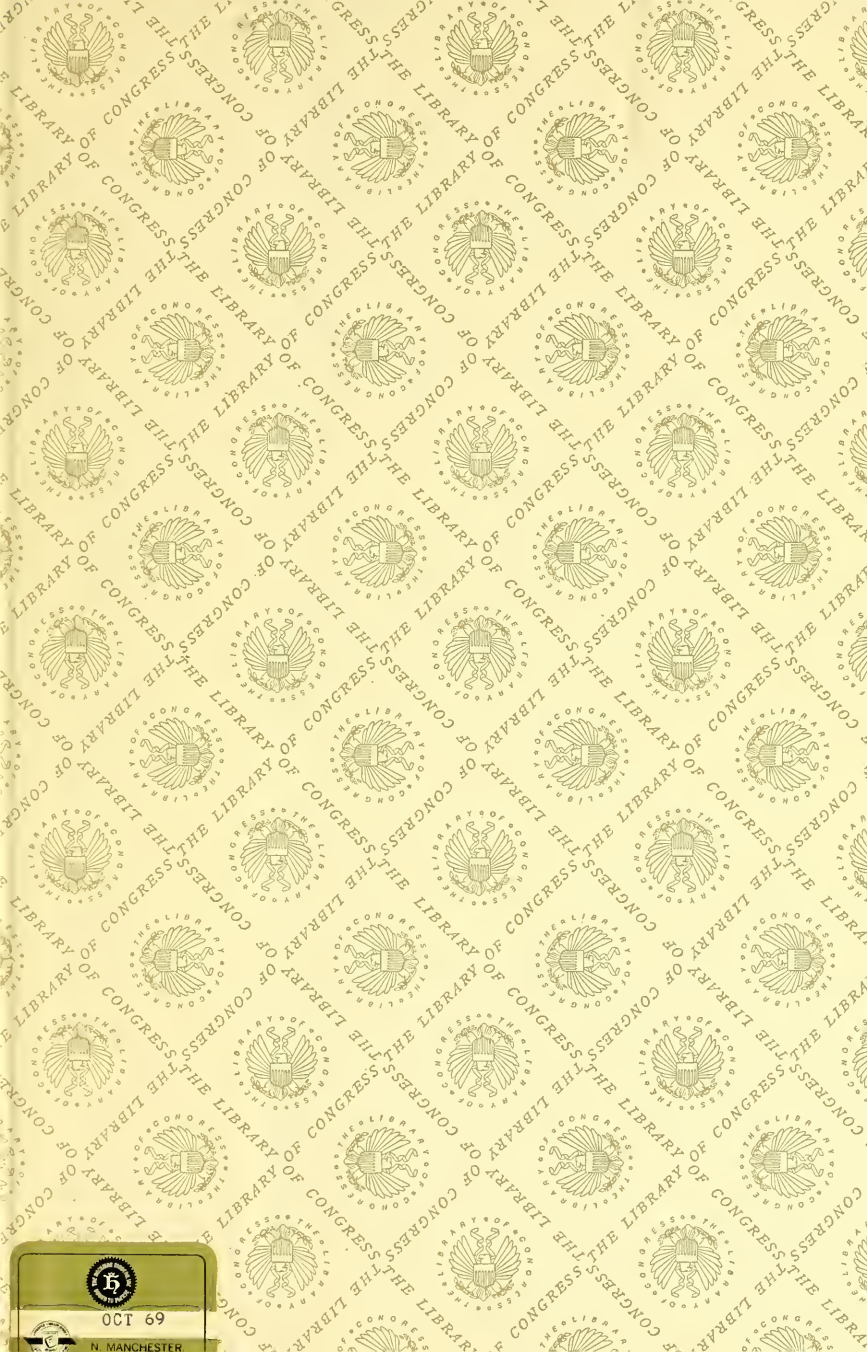
PROVIDES FOR A POPULATION OF ABOUT 275,000
(12 HOMES TO THE ACRE)

AFTER DEDUCTING

1/5 OF THE AREA FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USES
AND 500 ACRES FOR
SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.







OCT 69

N. MANCHESTER

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 314 413 6

